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January 31, 2024

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SETBACK FOR INDIA BLOC

BJP wins Chandigarh Mayoral election

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VULNERABLE ANIMAL

Survey puts India's snow leopard count at 718

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FINAL SITTING

Budget Session to begin today

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DATA POINT

Over 90% teens use social media

Only 50% know to block profiles, make account private

OPINION » PAGE 13

CRUISE MODE

Musheer and Saumy help India crush NZ

SPORT » PAGE 19

NEARBY

Mayank Agarwal survives serious health scare

BENGALURU
Test cricketer and Karnataka captain Mayank Agarwal survived a serious health scare on Tuesday just as he and his teammates were about to fly out of Agartala for Delhi.
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Electricity bills to be cheaper by 9 paise per unit

BENGALURU
The electricity bills of Bescom will be cheaper by 9 paise per unit in the February billing cycle due to a negative Fuel and Power Purchase Cost Adjustment. » Page 2

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGES 4 & 5

'Missing' CM Soren shows up in Ranchi

Jharkhand CM holds talks with alliance partners; MLAs sign letter of support without name; ED officials tow away vehicle, impound cash

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Hours after the BJP accused Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren of going "missing" in Delhi since Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials visited his residence there on Monday, he surfaced in Ranchi and held several rounds of meetings with leaders from his ruling coalition on Tuesday.

The MLAs of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-led coalition expressed solidarity with the Soren government.

They also signed a letter of support without any name as speculation is rife that the Chief Minister's wife, Kalpana Soren, will be given the reins of the State. Ms. Soren, who is not an MLA, attended a meeting of the lawmakers earlier in the day.

After their visit to his Delhi residence, the ED officials towed away a vehicle purportedly used by Mr. Soren and also reportedly impounded about ₹36 lakh in cash. Mr. Soren is likely to appear before the ED at his Ranchi residence on Wednesday afternoon to record his statement in an alleged land scam case.

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» PAGE 14

Fighting mode: Hemant Soren after paying tributes to Mahatma Gandhi on his death anniversary, in Ranchi on Tuesday. PTI

14 get death penalty for Kerala BJP man's murder

The Hindu Bureau
ALAPPUZHA

A court in Kerala on Tuesday awarded the death penalty to 14 of the 15 convicts in the murder of Ranjith Sreenivas, a BJP functionary. The verdict was delivered by the Mavelikara Additional District Sessions Court-I.

Sreenivas, who was a lawyer and the State secretary of the BJP's front for Other Backward Classes, was hacked to death at his house at Vellakinar in Alappuzha on December 19, 2021, in front of his mother, wife, and daughter. His family welcomed the verdict.

The convicts, hailing from Alappuzha, belong to the now-proscribed Popular Front of India and its political arm, the Social Democratic Party of India.

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» PAGE 14

Imran sentenced to 10 years in prison ahead of Pak. polls

Associated Press
ISLAMABAD

A Pakistani court convicted former Prime Minister Imran Khan of revealing official secrets on Tuesday and sentenced him to 10 years in prison – the latest in a slew of legal cases that supporters say are meant to sideline the imprisoned politician just days ahead of parliamentary elections.

Mr. Khan, who was ousted in a no-confidence vote in 2022, is not on the ballot because he is already serving a three-year prison term – and more than 150 other cases are still pending against him.

The former cricket star nonetheless remains a potent political force because of his grassroots following and anti-establishment rhetoric.

Pakistan saw violent demonstrations after Mr. Khan's arrest last year, and authorities have cracked down on the politician's supporters and party since then, making them wary of staging new rallies.

The February 8 elections come at a sensitive time in Pakistan, which is mired in an economic crisis that Mr. Khan's successor, Shehbaz Sharif, struggled to manage.

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'MIRROR IMAGE OF THE PAST'
» PAGE 17

Imran Khan

Flag row: FIR filed against Hindutva activists

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

An FIR has been registered against activists of Hindutva groups who had staged a protest against the replacement of saffron flag with the national tricolour at Keragodu village in Mandya on Sunday by violating the prohibitory orders and preventing officials from discharging their duty.

A senior police official said no arrests had been made.

Based on a complaint lodged by Shivakumar Biradara, tahsildar of Mandya taluk who is also the Executive Magistrate of the taluk, an FIR has been lodged against Pratap of Bilidegalu village, Avinash of Honagallimatha village, besides Prakash, and others of Keragodu under various sections of the IPC.

CONTINUED ON
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A BG-BGE

Part Shamar, part Bopanna: Gourav finds second wind with Pondicherry

Drawing inspiration from the ageless Indian tennis star, the 32-year-old pacer, whose origin mirrors the Caribbean fast bowler, has started to make an impact in Indian domestic cricket

Dhruva Prasad

In a week where Shamar Joseph's youthful exuberance and Rohan Bopanna's age-defying perseverance dominated sporting headlines, Pondicherry fast bowler Gourav Yadav, whose career is a mélange of both storylines, continued his domination in the wickets-takers chart of the ongoing Ranji Trophy.

At the age of 32, with 31 wickets in seven innings, Gourav feels his career is finally peaking and takes inspiration from 43-year-old Bopanna's Australian Open triumph.

"*Thirty-two kya hota hai? Aapne Rohan Bopanna ko dekha na*. At the age of 43, he is World No. 1. I can still play for another six to seven years with full intensity," he said during Pondicherry's match against Madhya Pradesh, where he added another eight scalps to his tally.

His origins, meanwhile, mirror those of Joseph, who worked as a security guard till the age of about 21 and who, until 12 months ago, would have dismissed his place in cricketing folklore as a pipe-dream.

Gourav, who hails from Bisoni Kilan, a small village of about 1200 to 1500 people in Madhya Pradesh, had never played with a leather ball till he was about 19 or 20.

"I used to play tennis-ball cricket in school and college. One day, the older boys told me that I bowl fast and that I should take a shot at bowling with a leather ball. I got myself admitted into a club in Bhopal and played there for about six to seven months. I was bowling quick with the leather ball too and received a lot of praise," he said.

With Indore being the epicentre of cricketing activity in MP, Gourav soon had to relocate from Bhopal.

"I went to Indore and played club cricket there. My village is in the Hoshangabad division, which is called Narmadapuram now. Someone asked me to play division cricket in Hoshangabad. From there, within two years, I came into the Ranji Trophy team. I was 22 or 23 [21] at the time," he added.

Though Gourav made his First-Class debut in 2012 against Gujarat in Indore, he got limited opportunities in his first four to five years on the domestic circuit, largely due to a slew of injuries that were in many ways the result of a late initiation into the game.

"I had a lot of injury issues initially. I would toil so hard in practice that I had no energy left after it. There was no time for my body to recover fully. Because I started playing so late, I was trying to compensate for it by bowling as much within two years as someone would have bowled in five years. That led to a lot of injuries, which set my career back a little bit," he said.

"MPCA (Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association) rated me so highly that the moment I was fit, they would select me after just a couple of selection matches... I could never play a full season. It's only since the last two seasons that I have been playing regularly," he added.

For Gourav, playing the Ranji Trophy wasn't only about pursuing his passion but also about proving a point and winning over his father, who was sceptical of his son's late entry into a sport that millions in the country aspire to play.

"I asked my father to give me two years to pursue cricket and I promised him that if I fail, I will never play the sport again. *Main kabhi bat-ball nahi uthaunga*," he reminisces.

When his father would fret over his future in case his plans went awry, Gourav would assure him that he had no qualms about returning to his roots.

"*Aap bhi toh kheti karke hummein paal rahe ho. Main bhi kheti kar lunga, usmein kya burai hai*. (You have raised us with the income you got from farming. I will do the same. There's no harm in doing that)," he would tell his father.

But once Gourav made his entry into First-Class cricket and his name began appearing in the papers, his father was convinced and never disapproved of his son's choices again.

Gourav made another enterprising decision ahead of the 2023-24 season when he quit MP to play for Pondicherry. Though he was a mainstay in red-ball cricket and an integral part of MP's Ranji Trophy title triumph in 2021-22, Gourav was rueing the lack of opportunities in limited-overs formats.

In more than 10 years with the MP team, he had featured in only 16 List A and nine T20 games despite showing promise in both formats.

"I wanted more opportunities in white-ball cricket. I was playing red-ball cricket consistently but chances in white-ball cricket were few and far between. I was the highest wicket-taker in the Vijay Hazare Trophy [2019-20] for MP, but still, I didn't get too many opportunities in white-ball cricket," he explained.

What also irked Gourav and stalled his progress was MPCA's repeated refusal to allow him to attend trials and net sessions of Indian Premier League franchises.

"I wasn't allowed to attend trials on two or three occasions. CSK (Chennai Super Kings) had called me as a net bowler and they were going to take me to UAE, but they [MPCA] didn't allow me to attend the trials or even go there as a net bowler. And neither were they giving me chances in white-ball cricket, so I had no other option," he told *Sportstar*.

Gourav could finally attend the Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) camp last year as a net bowler, where he dismissed Virat Kohli on a couple of occasions on the first day.

"Virat Kohli came up to me and said, 'Where are you from? You are bowling really well,'" he recounts gleefully.

In his first full white-ball season since 2019-20, Gourav emerged as Pondicherry's leading wicket-taker in the Vijay Hazare Trophy last year, picking 14 scalps in seven games.

In the Ranji Trophy, he inspired Pondicherry's wins against more fancied sides such as Delhi and Uttarakhand before facing defeat against his former side MP on Sunday.

However, Gourav believes the team, which is only five First-Class seasons old, has got what it takes to qualify for the knockouts.

Although minute in the global context, that story would well be in keeping with the pacer's odds-defying journey and the sporting world's giant-killing mood of late.

SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

THE GIST

- Gourav had never played with a leather ball till he was about 19 or 20
- He made his First-Class debut in 2012 against Gujarat in Indore
- In more than 10 years with the MP team, he had featured in only 16 List A and nine T20 games
- MPCA had repeatedly refused to allow him to attend trials and net sessions of IPL franchises
- He finally attended the RCB camp last year, where he dismissed Virat Kohli
- The pacer was Pondicherry's leading wicket-taker in the Vijay Hazare Trophy last year

Iran 'following dreams' in bid to clinch its first Asian Cup crown since 1976

Agence France-Presse
DOHA

Iran is "following our dreams" in trying to win the Asian Cup for the first time in 48 years, winger Alireza Jahanbakhsh said ahead of the last-16 clash with Syria.

Three-time champion Iran faces Syria in Qatar with a quarter-final against Bahrain or pre-tournament favourites Japan up for grabs.

Along with holder Qatar, Iran is the only team left in the competition which went through the group stage with a 100 per cent record.

"We know the importance of this tournament for the people of Iran and for ourselves," Feyenoord's Jahanbakhsh said on Tuesday.

"We are doing our best to follow our dreams."

Syria is in the knockout round for the first time and Iran is clear favourites, but Jahanbakhsh warned: "It's going to be very difficult, they are very physical.

"They only conceded one goal in the group phase and are very good defensively.

"It is all about details," the 30-year-old former Brighton player, who captained Iran in its 1-0 group-stage win over Hong Kong, added.

"The biggest difference between the group phase and the knockout is that if you make one mistake, you can easily go out."

Iran's coach Amir Ghalenoei identified his Syrian counterpart, the experienced Argentine Hector Cuper –who guided Egypt to the 2017 Africa Cup of Nations final – as a formidable opponent.

Cuper called Iran one of the strongest teams at the tournament while his men squeezed into the knockout rounds with one win, a 1-0 victory over India, in three games.

It was the only goal Syria has scored, but it has also only conceded once, in a defeat to Australia.

"We are optimistic and have big ambitions," the 68-year-old Cuper said.

"I want to make the long-suffering Syrian people happy and put a smile on their faces."

Syria, ranked 91 in the world to Iran's 21, will look to soak up pressure and hit its opponents on the break.

"My players have the spirit and talent to change the game at any moment," warned Cuper.

AFP

Of nearly 1,600 doctors who succumbed to COVID in India, 92 were from Karnataka

IMA publishes State-wise data on number of doctors who died of the infection

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many as 92 doctors died of COVID-19 during the first and second waves of the pandemic in Karnataka, according to data collated by the Indian Medical Association (IMA). Of these, 68 succumbed to the infection during the first wave.

The IMA, that observed Tuesday as COVID Martyrs' Day, published State-wise data on the number of doctors who died of the infection. According to the data, a total of 1,596 doctors died of COVID-19 in the country - 757 during the first wave and 839 in the second wave.

IMA State president Srinivasa S. said of the 92 doctors who died in Karnataka, eight are from Bengaluru. In commemoration of the contribution of the deceased doctors during the pandemic, IMA honoured their families on Tuesday. Similar programmes were held by IMA branches in all districts.

The Indian Medical Association, Karnataka branch, observed COVID Martyrs' Day on Tuesday in commemoration of doctors who succumbed to COVID-19. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Pointing out that the families of a total of 120 health personnel had so far received the ₹50 lakh insurance relief earmarked by the government for healthcare workers, IMA State secretary B.P. Karunakara alleged that only 30 of the 120 are families of deceased doctors. This despite several pleas by the IMA, he alleged.

Asserting that most of the doctors who died were running single doctor clinics, the State president said it is unfortunate that the government did not consider them eligible for the insurance compensation. "In the second wave, some of them died as they could not get beds and timely treatment. They are COVID warriors, who were exposed to the infection, while treating patients," he said.

"We were forced to open our health facilities, including clinics, following an assurance by the government that we will be provided insurance. However, it is unfortunate that only a handful of those who succumbed to the infection have got the compensation," he added.

State Health Commissioner Randeep D. said overall, of the 245 claims received under the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package Insurance Scheme for Healthcare Workers Fighting COVID-19' in Karnataka, 168 had been approved. "Of these, around 34 are doctors," he said.

20 lakh flowers from R-Day event to be repurposed into incense sticks, colour extracts

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

What happens to lakhs of flowers which were used in the Republic Day flower show organised at Lalbagh Botanical Garden? This time, the flowers will be used to make colour extracts and incense sticks, the Horticulture Department has decided.

Along with the special Cymbidium orchids from Darjeeling, a total of 30 lakh flowers, including double zinnias, chrysanthemums, ginger lillies, gerbera, and varieties of carnations and orchids were used in the flower show.

"Usually, we invite organisations to compost the flowers. We use it as manure for our plants. But this year, we have planned to repurpose the flowers," said Jagdeesh M., Joint Director (Parks and Gardens), Horticulture Department.

Out of the 30 lakh flowers, around 20 lakh flowers (weighing around 1 to 1.5 tonnes) are available for repurposing, the official said. Development Commissioner Shalini Rajneesh reportedly suggested to the Horticulture Department to use the flowers for a better purpose.

A total of 30 lakh flowers were used at the Republic Day flower show organised at Lalbagh Botanical Garden. FILE PHOTO

"Five years ago, we gave the flowers for colour extraction, but after that we have always used it as manure. This time, some organisations have come forward for colour extraction and to use them to make incense sticks. But we are currently waiting for the flowers to dry, which will take around two to three days. Once they are dry, we will seek an expert's consultation and proceed," Mr. Jagadeesh said.

The department will shortly take a call on which organisations will be working on repurposing the flowers.

Highest footfall

This year's January flower show, which was themed around social reformer Basavanna's life, Vachana Sahitya and Vachana writers like Allam Prabhu, Akka Mahadevi, and Ambigara Chowdayya, had the highest ever footfall of 5.61 lakh. Over 95,000 people visited on Republic Day, making it the highest footfall on a single day for the January show. The revenue from the show was around ₹2.58 crore, the department officials said.

BBMP to prioritise road development in industrial areas

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Pallike will prioritise development of roads in industrial areas and commercial hubs, said Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath. He was speaking at an interaction with Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI) in the city on Tuesday.

FKCCI president Chandra Lahoti said industrial areas are paying a huge amount of tax to BBMP but development activities by the civic body are not satisfactory. A few demands placed by FKCCI are development of roads, resolving lack of coordination between departments, eviction of vendors on footpaths of K.R. Market, and decongesting traffic at Sarakki near J.P. Nagar metro station.

Following this, Mr. Giri Nath said the BBMP will take up road development at Peenya Industrial Area, S.P. Road, Mamulpet, Tharagupet, Sultanpet, and other roads in the CBD area. He said FKCCI has also demanded proper waste management and maintenance of streetlights.

To avoid overcrowding, govt. imposes temporary ban on trek paths that do not have online booking system

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the wake of thousands of trekkers visiting Kumara Parvatha in Pushpagiri forest on January 26, the government has imposed a temporary ban on trekking paths that do not have an online booking system.

To avoid overcrowding inside the forest areas, Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre has instructed the Chief Conservator of Forests and the Chief of the Forest Task Force to impose a temporary ban on trekking paths that do not have an online booking system from February 1.

He said that if thousands of trekkers visit densely forested hilly areas, especially the Western Ghats, the biodiversity would be affected, besides the water sources would also be polluted.

In a note sent to the head of the forest task force, he said that the trend of trekking in the forested mountain peaks has recently increased among the youth of the State, which has led to overcrowding on weekends.

He said it had come to the notice of the government that the trekkers are throwing plastic carry bags, bottles, plates, and leftover food items in the villages on the edge of the forest and in the ecologically sensitive areas, which is endangering the wildlife.

He said that controlling such large crowds and checking everyone would be a big challenge for Forest Department staff. He also mentioned instances where some trekkers were staying overnight in tents.

Mr. Khandre has suggested temporarily blocking the treks until a standard operating procedure is put in place in all the trekking spots, including Kumara Parvatha, Thukkanninagudda, where there is no online booking system.

At present, only 150 trekkers are allowed on the trekking paths managed by the Eco Tourism Department of the Forest Department and bookings have been made available at https://www.karnatakaecotourism.com. Trekking will be allowed in 23 spots where online booking is operational.

Boy hurt in accident at BBP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a freak accident, a three-year-old boy sustained severe injuries when he came under a moving electric vehicle at the Bannerghatta Biological Park on Sunday. The boy, identified as Tridhar, had come to the park with his family from Raichur. He was running around playfully and came under the vehicle which was passing by carrying people.

The vehicle was stopped after people raised an alarm and the boy was dragged out from under it. He was rushed to a private hospital. While the boy is out of danger, he has suffered severe injuries and is under observation, the police said. The Bannerghatta police have registered a case.

Bescom bills to be cheaper by 9 paise per unit in Feb.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The electricity bills of Bescom will be cheaper by 9 paise per unit in the February billing cycle due to a negative Fuel and Power Purchase Cost Adjustment (FPPCA). Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission on Tuesday approved the negative FPPCA on the variations in the fuel and power purchase costs in December 2023, for all categories of consumers.

This is the second consecutive month that the FPPCA has figured in the negative for the electricity utility.

Conference on silkworm seed industry begins

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A two-day international conference on silkworm seed industry to commemorate the Central Silk Board's (CSB) 75 years of service to the sericulture industry organised by the National Silkworm Seed Organisation in association with other organisations began here on Tuesday.

Addressing the inaugural programme, P. Sivakumar, member secretary, CSB, presented an overview of the sericulture scenario in the country and said more focus was needed to avoid the fluctuations in tasar and muga seed sector. Prajakta L. Verma, joint secretary, Ministry of Textiles, pointed out that through the improvements in the silkworm seed sector, CSB should reach the global leader position.

The Hindu Young World Quiz in city on Feb. 6

Sudhindr A.B.
BENGALURU

The bright young minds, once again, will get an opportunity to engage in an exciting battle of wits as the 22nd edition of The Hindu Young World Quiz will be held in Bengaluru on February 6, at Chowdiah Memorial Hall in Gayathri Devi Park Extension, 2nd Main Road, 16th Cross, Malleswaram.

For details, schools can call 9945232990 or 9986196254.

The event, presented by the State Bank of India, is open for students in two categories: Junior (Classes 4 to 6) and Senior (Classes 7 to 9). Schools may visit www.thehindu.com/yw-quiz for registration.

Each team must consist of two members for each category, and any *bona fide* team from a school can take part by paying a non-refundable registration fee of ₹200 per team. The team members must be from the same school/branch. No cross-teams are allowed for registration.

The team members in school uniforms with IDs issued by schools must be present at the venue one hour before the start of the event.

There will be preliminary written rounds and six teams will qualify (based on the marks obtained in preliminaries) for the on-stage final rounds. Naturo is the Treat Time Partner for Karnataka.

उ0प्र0 लोक सेवा आयोग

प्रेस विज्ञप्ति

एतद्द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि आयोग कार्यालय के प्रयोगार्थ विभिन्न कम्प्यूटर एवं सहवर्ती उपकरणों के क्रय हेतु जेम पोर्टल पर निम्न निविदा आमंत्रित की गयी है -

Sr. No.	Bid Number	End Date & Time	Description
01	GEM/2024/B/4498211	07-02-2024 /19:00	Purchase of Desktop, Scanner, Printer, Server, UPS, Laptop, Barcode Reader etc.

उपरोक्त आमंत्रित निविदा जेम पोर्टल पर दिनांक 17.01.2024 से उपलब्ध है, इच्छुक निविदादाता निविदा प्रपत्रों का अध्ययन करके प्रतिभाग कर सकते है।

संख्याः 01/डी.पी.97/2017-18 टी.सी. V
दिनांक : प्रयागराज, 30 जनवरी, 2024

(अशोक कुमार)
सचिव

TIRUPPUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Notice for Inviting E-Tender
(Roc.No. E1 / 5122/2018, Date : 30.01.2024)

E-Tenders are invited from the eligible bidders for **"Providing Comprehensive Underground Sewerage Scheme to Added areas (Zone -11, 11.1 & 11.3) in Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation including 60 months of operation and maintenance" under in AMRUT-2.0 (2023-24).**

1. Total Project cost is **Rs.179.74 Crores.**
2. The details of the tender shall be obtained from web portal **https://tntenders.gov.in**
3. The tender documents shall be downloaded from **31.01.2024** to **18.03.2024** through the portal **https://tntenders.gov.in**
4. Pre Bid Meeting will be on **15.02.2024** at **11.00 AM** by the **Commissioner, Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation, Municipal Office Road, Tiruppur – 641 604.**
5. The Last date for downloading the tender document and the last date for uploading / submission of filled up tender document is upto **3.00 PM** on **18.03.2024.**
6. The received tenders will be opened at **3.30 PM** on **18.03.2024** at the **Office of Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation, Municipal Office Road, Tiruppur – 641 604.**
7. The value of each works and the details of Earnest Money Deposit and the Eligibility of bidders are given in the concern work tender document.

DIPR/ 543 /TENDER/2024

Commissioner,
Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Sarvagnanagara Division,
7th Floor, P.U. Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560001.

No: EE/(SGN)/e-Proc/QTN/01/2023-24 Date: 30-01-2024

SHORT TERM QUOTATION NOTIFICATION FOR RATES

The Executive Engineer, Sarvagnanagara Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites quotation from the reputed Agencies / Suppliers / Distributors / Contractor for the work detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Supply of Machineries for Dhobhi Ghat, Lazar Road, M.S. Nagar, Sarvagnanagar Constituency.	47.00	94,000/-

Calendar of Events: 1) The tender documents may be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 01-02-2024, 16.00 Hours. 2)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **05-02-2024 at 16.00 Hours. 3)** Last Date for Uploading the filled Tender Document is **08-02-2024 upto 16.00 Hours. 4)** Date of Opening of the Quotation is **09-02-2024 at 4.30 Hours (if possible or next working day)** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Sarvagnanagara Division, BBMP.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 04/MYS/2024 of 25-01-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Sl.	Item of work	Approx. Value
1	**Hassan-Mangaluru Jn. Section:** Provision of boulder netting at vulnerable cuttings at Km. 78/000- 300, Km. 79/150-300, Km. 79/400-470, Km. 79/500-560, Km. 82/650-780, Km. 83/090-230 and Tunnel No. 28 with Gabion walls and Galvanised Steel Wire rope net along with chain-link mesh-netting under Assistant Divisional Engineer /Sakleshpur Sub-Division.	Rs. 3,99,90,938/-
2	**Assistant Divisional Engineer/Sakaleshpur Sub Division:** Through renewal of check rail in Sakaleshpur-Subramanya Road ghat section.	Rs. 89,53,521/-

Last date for submission of bids : **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 16-02-2024**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer / Co-Ordination
PUB/660/AAD/PRB/SWR/2023-24 **Mysuru**

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

Ph. No. 06670-235504; E_Mail: serwbpt@yahoo.com
GOVT. OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
RURAL WORKS, CIRCLE, BHAWANIPATNA.
Bid Identification No.:- BPT/Online-48/2023-24 Date: 30.01.2024
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR ROAD & BRIDGE WORKS IN ODISHA
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e - Procurement

1. Name of the Work : **Construction of Road & Bridge Work under MMSY-TRIP Schemes in the District of Kalahandi.**
2. No of Works : **02 Nos.**
3. Location details : **Kalahandi District**
4. Estimated Cost : As per NIT
5. Period of Completion : As per NIT.
6. Cost of tender paper : **Rs.10,000/-** per set
7. Other details :

Availability of tender for online bidding		Last date & time for seeking tender clarification	Date and time of opening of technical bid
From	To		
02.02.2024 11.00 A.M.	16.02.2024 5.00 P.M.	15.02.2024	17.02.2024 at 11.00 A.M.

Further details can be seen from the web site **"www.tendersorissa.gov.in"**

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Bhawanipatna

O-2335: OIPR-25102/11/0064/2324

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com

NIT No.OSSC/Mktg(Hort) - 58/2024

e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of Clove Seedling for Kharif - 2024

OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender only from Registered Nursery Owner (and in case of GOI PSUs, their authorized Agencies) on item wise rate contract basis **for Procurement of Clove Seedling for Kharif-2024** in double cover system through online mode only for the work below.

Name of the work	**Purchase of Clove Seedling for Kharif-2024.**
No of work	**One**
Availability of Bid documents in Portal	**15.00 hours on dt.01.02.2024 to 17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	**17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	**10.30 hrs of dt.22.02.2024**

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions and other details of tender specified in the tender schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation can also be seen in the said website.

CAD-3911: **Sd/- Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.** OIPR-01106/11/0082/2324

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com

NIT No.OSSC/Mktg(Hort) - 56/2024

e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of Certified Coriander Seed for Kharif - 2024

OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender only from Producers (and in case of GOI PSUs, their authorized Agencies) on item wise rate contract basis **for Procurement of Certified Coriander Seed for Kharif-2024** in double cover system through online mode only for the work below.

Name of the work	**Purchase of Certified Coriander Seed for Kharif-2024.**
No of work	**One**
Availability of Bid documents in Portal	**15.00 hours on dt.01.02.2024 to 17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	**17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	**10.30 hrs of dt.22.02.2024**

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions and other details of tender specified in the tender schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation can also be seen in the said website.

CAD-3917: **Sd/- Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.** OIPR-01106/11/0088/2324

Astronomers spot unusual object that falls within the black hole 'mass gap'

The mass of a 'dark' companion in the NGC 1851E system is between the heaviest possible neutron stars and the possible lightest black holes. The nature and formation of objects in this gap is an outstanding question in astrophysics; the heaviest neutron stars, are thought to be around 2.2 solar masses, and the lightest black holes around 5

Ewan D. Barr
Arunima Dutta
Benjamin Stappers

An artist's impression of the the NGC 1851E binary system, looking over the shoulder of the dark mystery companion star. MPIFR, DANIËLLE FUTSELAAR (ARTSOURCE.NL)

THE GIST

Neutron stars are permanently shrouded from the universe by event horizons: surfaces of perfect darkness from which light cannot escape

If we are to ever understand the physics at the tipping point between neutron stars and black holes, we must find objects at this boundary

At the boundary between neutron stars and black holes there is always the possibility that some new, as yet unknown, astrophysical object might exist

Sometimes astronomers come across objects in the sky that we can't easily explain. In our new research, published in *Science*, we report such a discovery, which is likely to spark discussion and speculation.

Neutron stars are some of the densest objects in the universe. As compact as an atomic nucleus, yet as large as a city, they push the limits of our understanding of extreme matter. The heavier a neutron star is, the more likely it is to eventually collapse to become something even denser: a black hole.

These astrophysical objects are so dense, and their gravitational pulls so strong, that their cores – whatever they may be – are permanently shrouded from the universe by event horizons: surfaces of perfect darkness from which light cannot escape.

If we are to ever understand the physics at the tipping point between neutron stars and black holes, we must find objects at this boundary. In particular, we must find objects for which we can make precise measurements over long periods of time. And that's precisely what we've found – an object that is neither obviously a neutron star nor a black hole.

It was when looking deep in the star cluster NGC 1851 that we spotted what appears to be a pair of stars offering a new view into the extremes of matter in the universe. The system is composed of a millisecond pulsar, a type of rapidly spinning neutron star that sweeps beams of radio light across the cosmos as it spins, and a massive, hidden object of unknown nature.

The massive object is dark, meaning it is invisible at all frequencies of light – from the radio to the optical, X-ray and gamma-ray bands. In other circumstances this would make it impossible to study, but it is here that the millisecond pulsar comes to our aid.

Millisecond pulsars are akin to cosmic atomic clocks. Their spins are incredibly stable and can be precisely measured by detecting the regular radio pulse they create. Although intrinsically stable, the observed spin changes when the pulsar is in motion or when its signal is affected by a strong gravitational field. By observing these changes we can measure the properties of bodies in orbits with pulsars.

Our international team of astronomers has been using the MeerKAT radio telescope in South Africa to conduct such observations of the system, referred to as NGC 1851E.

These allowed us to precisely detail the orbits of the two objects, showing that their point of closest approach changes with time. Such changes are described by Einstein's theory of relativity and the speed of a change tells us about the combined mass of the bodies in the system.

Our observations revealed that the NGC 1851E system weighs almost four times as much as our Sun, and that the dark companion was, like the pulsar, a compact object – much denser than a normal star. The most massive neutron stars weigh in at around two solar masses, so if this were a double neutron star system (systems that are well known and studied) then it would have to contain two of the heaviest neutron stars ever found.

To uncover the nature of the companion, we would need to understand how the mass in the system was distributed between the stars. Again using Einstein's general relativity, we could model the system in detail, finding the mass of the companion to lie between 2.09 and 2.71 times the mass of the Sun.

The companion's mass falls within the "black hole mass gap" that lies between heaviest possible neutron stars, thought to be around 2.2 solar masses,

> Neutron stars are some of the densest objects in the universe. As compact as an atomic nucleus, yet as large as a city, they push the limits of our understanding of extreme matter

and the lightest black holes that can be formed from stellar collapse, around 5 solar masses. The nature and formation of objects in this gap is an outstanding question in astrophysics.

Possible candidates

So what exactly have we found then?

An enticing possibility is that we have uncovered a pulsar in orbit around the remains of a merger (collision) of two neutron stars. Such an unusual configuration is made possible by the dense packing of stars in NGC 1851.

In this crowded stellar dance floor, stars will twirl around one another, swapping partners in an endless waltz. If two neutron stars happen to be thrown too close together, their dance will come to a cataclysmic end.

The black hole created by their collision, which can be much lighter than those created from collapsing stars, is then free to wander the cluster until it finds another pair of dancers in the waltz and, rather rudely, insert itself – kicking out the lighter partner in the process. It is this mechanism of collisions and exchanges that could give rise to the system we observe today.

We are not done with this system yet. Work is already ongoing to conclusively identify the true nature of the companion and reveal whether we have discovered the lightest black hole or the most massive neutron star – or perhaps neither. At the boundary between neutron stars and black holes there is always the possibility that some new, as yet unknown, astrophysical object might exist.

Much speculation will be sure to follow this discovery, but what is already clear is that this system holds immense promise when it comes to understanding what really happens to matter in the most extreme environments in the universe.

(Ewan D. Barr is project scientist for the Transients and Pulsars with MeerKAT (TRAPUM) collaboration and Arunima Dutta is a PhD candidate at the Research Department Fundamental Physics in Radio Astronomy, both at the Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy; Benjamin Stappers is professor of astrophysics, University of Manchester. This article is republished from The Conversation.*)*

BIG SHOT

The spiral galaxy NGC 1512, located 30 million light-years away from the earth, is seen in this image captured by the James Webb Space Telescope. The images were made public on Monday by scientists in a project called Physics at High Angular resolution in Nearby GalaxieS (PHANGS). The new images came from Webb's Near-Infrared Camera and Mid-Infrared Instrument. They show roughly 100,000 star-clusters and millions of individual stars. NASA, ESA, CSA, STSCI, PHANGS

QUESTION CORNER

Rain: how vapour becomes water

Q: Why does rain fall as drops and sheets?

A: Many windblown drops can be forced together to form what weather reporters call 'sheeting rain', but rain is always born as minuscule drops of condensed water vapour, according to the book *Clouds and Weather* by John A. Day and Vincent J. Schaefer.

The formation of these droplets depends on the right amount of water vapour at the right pressure and temperature, but it also requires the presence of tiny solid particles of matter in the air on which the water vapour can gather and condense. These bits of dust and salt are called cloud condensation nuclei. Salt starts collecting vapour at about 80% relative humidity, while bits of clay begin to take on water molecules at 100% relative humidity.

As the water molecules slowly collect and condense on the particles, cloud droplets form. They are a million times the volume of the original particle but are still very tiny. It takes perhaps 3,000 droplets to form a small raindrop. The drops in a heavy shower are the size of around 6,000 droplets, according to *The New York Times*.

The droplets can grow into drops by several processes. First, they can slowly continue to attract vapour. Second, larger droplets fall faster than small ones and collide with them, sometimes joining into larger drops.

Rain is carried to the ground by solid particles in the air. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Finally, evaporating droplets may collect on ice crystals in clouds. The crystals may warm and melt into rain drops or they may grow 'branches' and fall as snowflakes.

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to
science@thehindu.co.in
with the subject 'Daily page'

Victims of cybercrime reflect on trauma and hard-won lessons in the wake of losses

While some have taken up jobs to recover the losses, many others have moved on; some victims of cybercrimes do not even file a complaint believing it to be an embarrassment, say police

CAUGHT IN A WEB

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

In the aftermath of a cyber fraud in 2022, a 26-year-old woman found herself ensnared in a financial quagmire and is still reeling from the staggering loss of ₹19 lakh. Despite exhaustive efforts by law enforcement agencies, the trail has remained elusive.

Ramani V. (name changed), lured by a work-from-home (WFH) advertisement on Instagram, clicked a link following which she started receiving messages on WhatsApp. The fraudsters even spoke to her through WhatsApp calls. She was asked to type 40-page content in word format as part of the job. In anticipation of securing the job, Ramani, mother of a child, typed the content and sent it across.

"I took about 12 days to complete the work. After I sent the content, the fraudsters posing as recruiters directed me to send registration fees, processing fees, quality check fees, salary transaction fees, and others. In about 15 days, I transferred about ₹19 lakh," she lamented.

Ms. Ramani, besides emptying her account, pledged gold to arrange for money keeping her spouse in the dark. A Bachelor of Computer Applications graduate, Ms. Ramani in her eagerness to earn money to better the family's living status was deceived by the cybercriminals. "Now, I am working as a receptionist at a gym near my residence to earn back my money. The incident haunts me every day," she said.

Lokesh Reddy (name changed), a 62-year-old businessman who operated a wholesale grocery shop, was rendered bankrupt by a cyber fraud. A fraudster withdrew ₹90 lakh in about 5,000 transactions between 2021 and 2023. Mr. Reddy said even today, he has no clue on how he was deceived. He had opened this account to carry out shop-related transactions.

The fraudster spent his money on buying valuable items from other shops. "The police too have no clue as to what happened. Now, the entire family depends on my son's salary."

Another 32-year-old businessman who lost ₹5 lakh after ordering tissue paper said that after seeing an advertisement on Google, he called the number and placed an order for tissue paper.

The person on the other hand asked for full payment in advance. "Even to this day, I do not understand why I believed him. After I made the payment, he stopped picking up my calls. After this, I have stopped doing business with strangers. Now, I do a detailed background check. It is a learning for me."

In the dark

Many victims *The Hindu* contacted did not agree to speak about the crime.

A public relation executive from Bengaluru, who landed in trouble after downloading a fraudulent loan app, said she has moved on and did not want to talk. The woman's photos were stolen and her morphed picture was sent to her family and friends.

The victims of cybercrimes, most of the time, do not even file a complaint with the police believing it to be an embarrassment. The victims also keep family members in the dark about the incident, the police said.

Advisory

Dos

- Call 112 to complain about cybercrime immediately
- Call your bank helpline and try to get the transaction reversed in case you are cheated online

Don'ts

- Don't click on links from unknown persons or organisations on social media
- Do not believe anyone offering you a job but asking you to pay a processing fee
- Be cautious while applying for work-from-home (part-time job) messages on social media
- Never respond to messages about investment schemes sent from unknown numbers
- Do not believe anyone offering unrealistic high returns
- Be cautious while investing in Bitcoin schemes
- Never share your One Time Password (OTP) with anyone
- Do not share your debit/credit card details with others
- Do not be spooked by calls claiming there is a parcel of narcotics in your name
- Do not believe anyone calling you claiming to be officials of enforcement agencies or banks and asking you for your bank details or to pay money
- Be cautious while using dating apps

CCB officials unearth WFH scam, arrest 11

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch officials unearthed a 'work from home' scam and arrested 11 people operating from Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Mumbai.

The police claimed that 30 bank accounts, that have been frozen, have been flagged in relation to 2,143 cases across 28 States, including 265 in Karnataka, on the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal (NCRP). Transactions worth ₹158 crore were carried out in these accounts.

The city police recovered ₹62.8 lakh, apart from 11 mobile phones and 15 SIM cards from the accused. The accounts were linked to 135 cases across 14 police stations in Bengaluru city. The police have arrested four persons from the city, involved in opening the bank accounts.

Based on a complaint by a person from BEL layout in Vidyaranyapura who lost ₹18.7 lakh online, a team of CCB officials led by Deputy Commissioner of Police Abdul Ahad, tracked down the accused through the bank transactions.

According to the police, the accused would message random numbers on WhatsApp and Telegram apps, posing as HR personnel offering work-from-home jobs for extra income. The accused offered simple tasks to like and follow social media accounts and YouTube videos to whoever responded and offered them quick returns. "This is a bait for gullible people. They are lured into a fake investment scheme promising very high returns. Initially, on a few small investments, victims are given double returns, pushing them to make a big investment, following which they often turn incommunicado," said Police Commissioner B. Dayananda.

"The accused had been operating for the past one year and the racket was a well-layered organised crime syndicate. All the accused had been assigned roles and some have been suspected to be operating from abroad. While the amount that was siphoned-off runs to several hundred crores, the recovery amount will be lesser. This is because the accused would withdraw the cash as soon as it landed in the bank accounts. We are contemplating identifying the property of the accused for seizure and recovery," Mr. Dayananda said.

Those arrested are operators who called and messaged people on a commission basis. Explaining the modus operandi, a senior official said that the four accused went to Hyderabad and opened bank accounts in different banks. The account details were later handed over to one Abbas Ali in return for commission. The details were then sent to Ali's contacts in Mumbai through a private courier to another sub-operator. The Mumbai sub-operator handed over the details to the main operator, who acted at the behest of the kingpin, who is believed to be based out of Dubai.

INBRIEF

Pixxel appoints William McCombe as CFO

Bengaluru-based space start-up Pixxel has announced the appointment of William McCombe as its new Chief Financial Officer. "Mr. William arrives at Pixxel with extensive experience as CFO at various space and technology hardware companies, most notably Maxar and Velo3D," Pixxel said.

KV student presents project at PM's *Pariksha Pe Charcha*

R. Bhavana, a class 9 student of Kendriya Vidyalaya, DRDO, presented her science project at the *Pariksha Pe Charcha* programme held on January 29 in Bharath Mandapam, Pragathi Maidan, New Delhi. As part of the programme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with students appearing for board exams this year. R. Bhavana represented the KVS Bengaluru region at the programme in Delhi. Her project on a health monitoring system has earned recognition for its innovative approach, said KV, DRDO, Bengaluru.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated January 31, we have a story on drinking water woes in Bengaluru. We take a look at whether a smart water-pricing strategy will boost conservation or if a separate law is the only way to give it some teeth?

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (January 31, Wednesday), the following articles are available:

- Pakistan and Iran: calm after the storm **bit.ly/pakistaniranreconciliation**
- Astronomers spot unusual object falling in the black hole 'mass gap' **bit.ly/blackholemassgap**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Following objection, police replace green flag with tricolour at Shivajinagar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following the controversy over removal of a saffron flag in Keragodu village of Mandya district, several social media users, including BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, objected to a green flag on a BBMP lamp post at Chandni Chowk in Shivajinagar on Tuesday.

Within hours of this being flagged, the Shivajinagar police held a meeting with the local dargah committee and residents and replaced the green flag with the tricolour to avoid controversy.

The tricolour replaced the green flag on a BBMP lamp post at Chandni Chowk in Shivajinagar on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

"The flag belongs to the local dargah situated at Chandni Chowk and was hoisted on the lamp post for many years. But after there was an attempt to blow this out of proportion on social media, we replaced it with the national flag," a member of the dargah committee said.

"Shivajinagar is an example of communal harmony with temples, mosques, and churches. People of all faiths eke out a living here. We will not let this peace be disrupted. So we decided not to resist and removed the green flag," said Akmal Pasha, a member of the dargah committee.

A senior official of Shivajinagar police said the flag was removed peacefully and no one objected to it.

Police arrest man who robbed his neighbour

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The KP Agrahara police on Tuesday arrested a 36-year-old mechanical engineering graduate and the owner of an aluminium factory for burgling the house of his neighbour to repay the loan he had incurred due to loss in his business.

Madan Kumar, resident of Telecom Layout, had incurred the loss after his factory was gutted in a fire recently. He decided to rob his neighbours. The accused planned the burglary in advance, visiting the neighbours on the pretext of dropping his mother to their house.

He purchased equipment like cutters, gloves, and caps to conceal his identity. He even watched documentaries on how to commit successful burglaries, the police said. Madan then gained entry into the first floor of the house while the neighbours were out for their morning walk. He entered the house by drilling the door with a cutter and robbed gold, silver, and cash worth over ₹8 lakh on January 17.

Jayadeva institute to get in-charge director for now

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With the tenure of C.N. Manjunath, director, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, ending on Wednesday, the State government is likely to appoint an in-charge director for the time being.

Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil told *The Hindu* that around 11 applications had been shortlisted for the post. Sources said the governing council meeting had been postponed to next week. Till then an in-charge director will be deputed. Sources said four names are in the running for the post. While two of them are from Jayadeva's Mysuru branch – K.S. Sadananda and B. Dinesh - the remaining are from Bengaluru - K.H. Srinivas and V. Kumaraswamy.

The institute staff organised an emotional farewell for Dr. Manjunath on Tuesday. Patients and hospital staff had lined up in front of his chambers from morning to wish and thank him. His parents-in-law H.D. Deve Gowda and Chenamma Deve Gowda along with his wife Anusuya and children attended the farewell.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31	
RISE	06:46 SET 18:20
RISE	22:45 SET 10:15
THURSDAY, FEB. 01	
RISE	06:46 SET 18:20
RISE	23:31 SET 10:49
FRIDAY, FEB. 02	
RISE	06:46 SET 18:21
RISE	00:00 SET 11:26

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	22
Mysuru	31	20
Bengaluru	29	18

Bengaluru Today
30°C A dry weather to prevail. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be cool and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night will be slight cool and hazy.

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THE HINDU
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Pet parent alleges 'horrible' experience on Bengaluru-bound flight; airline clarifies

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Passenger says instructions were different from what was advertised by the airline and there was no special seat for pet travel

A pet parent, who was travelling from Ahmedabad to Bengaluru, with a Shih Tzu on an Akasa Air flight has alleged that he had a "horrible" experience due to the "indifferent attitude" of the airport, airline staff, and CISF personnel. The airlines, meanwhile, clarified on some of the allegations.

Lakshya Pathak, who had booked the flight on January 26, with his wife and pet shared his experience on Linkedin. In his post he wrote: "...The flight that was intended to leave at 10.20 p.m. left at 1.40 a.m. Being our first travel with our pet, we reached the airport 3 hours in advance. So with the delay, we had spent over six hours at the airport. The attitude of the ground staff and CISF could not have been less helpful." Mr. Pathak said he paid ₹5,000 to enable his pet's comfortable travel. However, he alleged that despite the delay, the airport staff was adamant about not letting the pet out of the container.

"The airport security told us thrice not to even let him lie on the floor. There is no provision for pets to relieve themselves. All washrooms in the airport have blowers that make a lot of noise so there is no chance pets would pee. The ground staff told us that the pet could use the flight's washroom," he wrote.

He alleged that the instructions were very different from what was advertised by the airline and there was no special seat for pet travel.

"During the whole flight, I had to forcefully shove my crying pet's head inside the container multiple times. The steward kept threatening us that if he took the matter to the captain, there was a chance he might turn the flight around," he wrote.

'Delay due to weather'

Akasa Air stated: "At the outset, we sincerely regret the inconvenience caused to the passenger and their pet, as customer centricity is one of our core values." However, it clarified that its airport team provided assistance and gave the passenger the option of taking the pet outside the terminal. It said that the passenger did not opt for this since he did not want to go through the check-in and security process again, as per CISF protocols. "The delay was on account of weather conditions, which is beyond our control," it said.

'Pet parents briefed'

The airline said that prior to departure, its cabin crew conducted a comprehensive briefing for pet parents, emphasising the importance of ensuring both the safety and comfort of their pet during the flight. The pet parents acknowledged this information, and throughout the flight, there were no additional requests for assistance from them.

"After take-off, our crew observed that the pet container was not in compliance with our safety procedures. Specifically, the container was placed on the passenger's lap, with the pet's head protruding from it. In line with mandatory safety protocols and keeping in mind the convenience of other passengers on board, the crew immediately requested that the container be properly secured and returned to its designated position in front of the assigned seat," the airline stated.

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

India's rank in tourist arrivals to Maldives after row

5 From being the top tourist group visiting Maldives, Indians have slipped to the fifth position in the last three weeks, according to official data. Maldives received over 1.74 lakh tourists till January 28 this year, of which 13,989 were Indians. PTI

Tankers taking longer routes after Red Sea attacks

100 Yemen's Iran-backed Houthis have been targeting vessels in the Red Sea since November to show their support for Hamas in its war against Israel. This has prompted major shipping companies to take the longer route.

Amount seized by ED from Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren

36 lakh in cash. This seizure was related to a money laundering case linked to an alleged land scam. The ED also seized a BMW SUV and some "incriminating" documents after it searched the CM's house. It has so far arrested 14 people. PTI

Rate of global GDP growth forecast by the IMF

3.1 in percentage. The global growth forecast was raised by 0.2 percentage points from an earlier estimate on account of greater-than expected resilience in the U.S. and large emerging markets and developing economies, and fiscal support in China. AFP

India's rank in corruption perceptions index

93 out of 100 nations. The report was published by Transparency International, which ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu twitter.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

Pakistan and Iran: calm after the storm

What prompted Iran to target Balochistan, and how did Pakistan respond to the missile strikes? What key factors contributed to the decision for both nations to de-escalate tensions? How did the arrival of Iran's Foreign Minister in Islamabad impact economic and security discussions between the two countries?

WORLD INSIGHT

D. Suba Chandran

The story so far:

In a series of events, Iran launched missile strikes in Pakistan's Balochistan province, targeting alleged strongholds of the Jaish al-Adl. In response, Pakistan condemned the attacks, recalling its Ambassador and expelling the Iranian Ambassador, while also suspending high profile bilateral visits. A day later, Pakistan retaliated by targeting individuals and terrorist groups in Iran's Sistan-Baluchestan province. However, with a diplomatic approach, Pakistan emphasised its respect for Iran, preventing further escalation. On January 19, at a National Security Council meeting aimed at addressing security concerns for regional peace, both nations decided to de-escalate, reinstating ambassadors, and by January 28, Iran's Foreign Minister arrived in Islamabad to discuss economic and security matters, signaling a shift towards dialogue and cooperation.

Tension relief: Convener, World Minorities Alliance and Former Federal Minister for Population Welfare of Pakistan, Julius Salik showers rose petals to celebrate after Pakistan and Iran 'agreed to de-escalate' tensions, in Islamabad on January 20. AFP

What is special about the two Baloch provinces in Iran and Pakistan?

First, the demography and geography of the provinces. The Sistan-Baluchestan province, one of the largest provinces in Iran, shares the border with Pakistan's Balochistan and Afghanistan's southern provinces. The Baloch are the majority in the Sistan-Baluchestan province, with Sistanis as a minority. The former is Sunni, while the latter is Shia.

Geographically, Balochistan is the largest of four provinces in Pakistan, with a Baloch majority (which is now being threatened by the Pashtun ingress from Afghanistan and Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa). However, Baloch are a minority within Pakistan.

Second, the borders. Pakistan's Balochistan province shares a long border with Iran, around 900 km. Unlike the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, which is disputed by Kabul, the Pakistan-Iran border is settled. Both countries have been building a concrete wall along the border to prevent illegal crossings between Balochistan (in Pakistan) and Sistan-Baluchestan (in Iran) provinces. However, the border remains ineffective in preventing the illicit movement of people and goods, especially along the land and maritime borders. Smuggling is common, especially in the south, closer to the Pakistan-Iran maritime border.

Third, two ports of strategic importance – Gwadar in Pakistan and Chabahar in Iran, are situated on the mouths of the Arabian Sea less than 200 km apart. China and India have invested in these two ports and see them as exit and entry points from/into maritime/mainland Asia. Baloch provinces are strategically important for Iran and Pakistan; however, they remain in the political periphery and are alienated from the national capitals. For the national capitals, the control of the provinces and the two ports is paramount.

Who are the militants that Iran and Pakistan targeted in each other's territory?

In Pakistan, Iran targeted a relatively little-known Sunni militant group – "Jaish al-Adl," based in Balochistan. According to Iran's Foreign Minister, "none of the nationals of the friendly and brotherly country of Pakistan were targeted by Iranian missiles and drones." Considered as a remnant of Jundullah, Iran has been fighting it since the late 2000s.

The Jundullah, believed to be founded by Abdolmalek Rigi, was present then in the Sistan-Baluchestan province and has repeatedly been targeting Iran's security forces and civilian targets through terrorist activities, including suicide bombings. Iran has been targeting the Jundullah leader; Rigi, a Baloch, was captured and executed in 2010.

Jundullah was a Sunni group with links to al Qaeda and fighting for "Sunni" rights, rather than an ethnic Baloch militant group. However, Tehran considers that the Jundullah had the support of the Baloch people across the Sistan-Baluchestan and Balochistan provinces in Iran and Pakistan, respectively. After Rigi's death, a few Jundullah members formed the Jaish al-Adl and continued attacking Iran during the 2010s.

Between 2013-2023, the Jaish al-Adl is accused of having carried out numerous attacks, mainly targeting Iran's security officials; the latest one was in December 2023, where they targeted a police station in Rask in Sistan-Baluchestan, killing 11 security personnel.

In Iran, Pakistan targeted the hideouts belonging to the "Balochistan Liberation Army" and "Balochistan Liberation Front." Pakistan has been fighting multiple waves of Baloch insurgency since 1947. The latest wave of insurgency intensified after the killing of Akbar Bugti, one of the tallest Baloch leaders. Unlike the Jundullah, the Baloch militant organisations do not have a sectarian agenda or have links with international organisations such as al Qaeda. They have an ethnic agenda and fight for greater rights for the Baloch; some of them have a separatist agenda and want to establish an independent Balochistan.

Why did Pakistan and Iran de-escalate immediately after the missile attacks?

If the escalation was fast, de-escalation was faster. Immediately after Iran's initial attack, Pakistan recalled its Ambassador and asked the Iranian Ambassador to leave. Two days later, Pakistan targeted a few militant targets in the Sistan-Baluchestan province in Iran. After the swift diplomatic and military escalation, there was a de-escalation. China is believed to have pressured Islamabad and Tehran. But more than any external pressure, the bilateral dynamics might have led to the de-escalation.

Given the regional security situation and the immediate neighbourhood, both countries cannot afford an escalation now, which was reflected in their statements. Pakistan's official statement talked about "dialogue and cooperation as key tools for addressing common challenges, including terrorism," while Iran's underlined adhering to "the policy of good neighbourliness and brotherhood between the two nations" and not allowing "enemies to strain the amicable and brotherly relations of Tehran and Islamabad."

It appears that Iran's missile strikes in Pakistan had a limited objective as a part of its targets in Syria and Iraq in response to an earlier attack in January 2024 in Kerman. Similarly, Pakistan's response seems limited in making a domestic and a bilateral statement. Both have been careful with their statements to ensure it does not escalate. Besides there have been efforts in recent years aimed at a rapprochement, which they did not want to jeopardise.

What challenges lie ahead for Pakistan and Iran?

Though Tehran was one of the first to recognise Pakistan, since the 1979 Iranian revolution, the two countries had a troubled relationship. Iran's revolution in 1979 and Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq's regime in Pakistan during the 1980s brought the Sunni-Shia sectarian divide to the fore between the two. Though both refer to the "brotherly Muslim countries" rhetoric, the sectarian factor was too strong to patch the divide.

Globally, Iran saw Pakistan under the American sphere of influence during the Cold War and post 9/11, especially in Afghanistan. Pakistan and Iran remained in opposite groups; only in recent years has China tried to bring Islamabad and Tehran together.

And regionally, the struggle for supremacy, within the West Asia, pitches Iran and Saudi Arabia on opposite camps, with Pakistan aligned with the latter. On Afghanistan and the Taliban, both countries have differed on objectives and strategies. Until recently, Pakistan viewed Tehran as closer to New Delhi than Islamabad. Pakistan's nuclear bomb is seen as a Sunni one, pushing Tehran to have its own for the Shia world.

Finally, economically, the bilateral relationship is not strong enough to create a political stake; the fact that Iran is planning to approach international arbitration for Pakistan's reluctance to move ahead with the Iran-Pakistan pipeline should underline the harsh realities for Islamabad and Tehran.

(Prof. D. Suba Chandran heads the NIAS Pakistan Reader, an area studies initiative at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru)

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani greets his Iranian counterpart Hossein Amir-Abdollahian at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad. AFP/PAKISTAN FOREIGN OFFICE

THE GIST

On 16 January, a day after its strikes in Iraq and Syria, Iran targeted Pakistan's Balochistan province, with missiles, killing two.

On 17 January, condemning the attacks as "unprovoked" and a breach of sovereignty, Pakistan recalled its Ambassador from Tehran and expelled the Iranian Ambassador. Pakistan also suspended all high profile bilateral visits – ongoing and planned.

On 18 January, Pakistan retaliated by targeting "individuals" and "terrorist groups" in Iran's Sistan-Baluchestan province, killing nine. Pakistan's Foreign Ministry claimed Iran as a close friend, with great respect and affection for the Iranian people.

On 19 January, the National Security Council meeting decided to "address each other's security concerns in the larger interest of regional peace and stability" as Iran is a "neighbourly and brotherly Muslim country."

On 22 January, a joint statement issued by the two Foreign Ministries agreed on the return of ambassadors. Subsequently, on 26 January, the Ambassadors returned to their offices in Tehran and Islamabad.

On 28 January, Iran's Foreign Minister arrived in Islamabad to discuss economic and security issues between the two countries.

OPPORTUNITIES

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT • JOBS • TECHNOLOGY

‘India has a wide AI talent pool’

Survey notes that the employability of the youth in terms of an AI-powered future is growing at an impressive rate

GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCK PHOTO

Opportunities Desk

In its ‘India Skills Report 2024’, Wheebox (an online assessment platform with remote proctoring) notes that India is among countries at the vanguard of the AI revolution. That conclusion is based on Wheebox National Employability Test (WNET) with 3.88 lakh participants and insights from 152 corporations, according to a commentary on the skills report.

The report reveals that India boasts a global leadership position in AI skill penetration and talent concentration, earning an impressive score of 3.09. With an installed talent base of 4.16 lakh AI professionals as of August 2023, the nation is well-poised to meet the current demand of approximately 6.29 lakh, a figure expected to surge to 10 lakh by 2026. India Skills Report 2024 also assesses the employability of India’s youth, emphasising industry readiness for an AI-powered future.

Talent concentration

According to the WNET employability survey in the India Skills Report 2024, the overall employability of India’s youth has improved to 51.25% over the previous year.

Among states with large talent pools, Haryana, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Telangana have the highest concentration of highly employable youth. Specifically, Haryana leads with 76.47% of test takers scoring 60% and above on the WNET. In the age range of 22 to 25 years, Uttar Pradesh stands out with the highest talent concentration at 74.77%, followed closely by Maharashtra at 71.97%.

Additionally, the overall employability rate within this age group across the top 10 cities is 63.58%. These findings underscore the regional variations and demographic factors influencing the employability landscape in India.

The ISR 2024 findings illuminate a significant rise in female participation in the workforce, surging from last year’s 33% to an admirable 36%.

This positive trajectory represents a noteworthy stride in fostering gender equality, the report says.

While the Female Labour Force Participation Rate has risen to 37% in 2022-2023 from 23.3% in 2017-18, female employability has dropped; 50.86% of females were found to be highly employable resources nationwide, a drop from last year’s 53.8% female employability ratio.

Haryana was reported to have the highest concentration of highly employable females who are prepared for the workforce at 49.58%, while Andhra Pradesh came in second with 39.96%.

Assessing employability across domains, percentage of candidates from the Information Technology domain were found to be highly employable with 68.44% scoring above 60% on the WNET test across all regions. Computer science graduates were second most employable with 66% in this domain found highly skilled.

The report says 64.67% of graduates in BE/ BTech test takers were found highly employable while 64.63 MCA candidates were also found highly employable, identifying the talent availability of qualified engineering and computer applications talent among India’s youth.

Is the writing on the wall for plain text resumes?

Opportunities Desk

“Do not say it, show it” – an age-old instruction reserved for anyone having to present an idea in a forum. With the digital revolution, that injunction reverberates in newer and even unlikely quarters. One of them is the hiring room.

A recent study by visual communication platform Canva notes hiring managers want interactive, visual resumes.

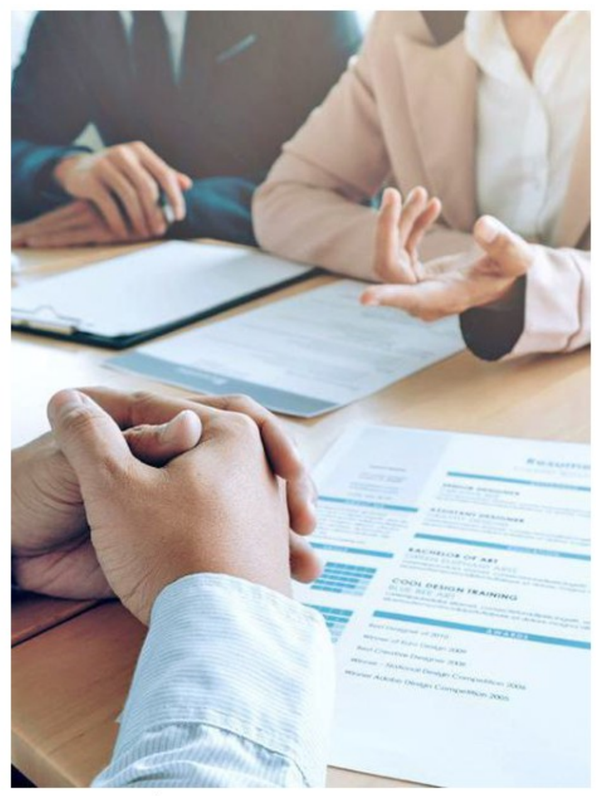
And 81% of India’s hiring managers have a bleak prognosis for the text-based resume: they believe it would be obsolete in the next five years.

Canva commissioned Sago to survey 5,000 hiring managers and 5,000 job seekers from India, the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, France, Mexico and Brazil to understand how screening candidates had evolved.

In India, job seekers have found out (sometimes, the hard way) that 7 in 10 hiring managers prefer more interactive resumes with visual elements like images and graphics (66%) and colours (61%). Besides, 93% of hiring managers in India believe it is acceptable for candidates to use generative AI in their application materials in some form; 74% of job seekers in India have turned to AI to improve their resumes.

Over half (52%) of job seekers are using digital portfolios, which have become more common over the past year, the survey says.

Eighty-one per cent of India’s hiring managers have a bleak prognosis for the text-based resume: they believe it would be obsolete in the next five years



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FROM THE ARCHIVES

Legacy remembers: View of the Mahatma Gandhi memorial on a foggy winter morning at Rajghat on Gandhi's death anniversary in New Delhi on January 30. AFP

A betrayal of the very idea of Mahatma

The principles Mahatma Gandhi stood for represent an ideal that is being weakened every day by those in power who are pushing their agenda of bigotry; he viewed Hinduism as a faith that respected and embraced all other faiths, challenging the exclusivity promoted by Hindutva ideologues

Shashi Tharoor

This article dated January 27, 2023, explores the challenges to Mahatma Gandhi's legacy in contemporary India. The article contrasts Gandhi's inclusive vision rooted in Advaita Vedanta with the majoritarian creed of Hindutva ideologies, emphasising the ongoing clash between idealism and exclusionary practices within India's ideological landscape.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination (January 30, 1948) by a Hindu fanatic who thought the Mahatma was too soft on Muslims. The momentous anniversary comes at a time when his legacy, the very idea of Gandhi, stands challenged by the prevailing ideological currents. At a time when the standing of his historic detractors, whose descendants now form the ruling dispensation in the country, is at an all-time high, Gandhiji has been criticised for weakness, for having bent over too far to accommodate Muslim interests, and for his pacifism, which is seen by the jingoistic Hindutva movement as unmanly.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination (January 30, 1948) by a Hindu fanatic who thought the Mahatma was too soft on Muslims. The momentous anniversary comes at a time when his legacy, the very idea of Gandhi, stands challenged by the prevailing ideological currents. At a time when the standing of his historic detractors, whose descendants now form the ruling dispensation in the country, is at an all-time high, Gandhiji has been criticised for weakness, for having bent over too far to accommodate Muslim interests, and for his pacifism, which is seen by the jingoistic Hindutva movement as unmanly.

The Mahatma was killed, with the name of Rama on his lips, for being too pro-Muslim; indeed, he had just come out of a fast he had conducted to coerce his own followers, the Ministers of the new Indian government, to transfer a larger share than they had intended of the assets of undivided India to the new state of Pakistan. Gandhiji had also announced his intention to spurn the country he had failed to keep united and to spend the rest of his years in Pakistan, a prospect that had made the government of Pakistan collectively choke.

But that was the enigma of Gandhiji in a nutshell: idealistic, quirky, quixotic, and determined, a man who answered to the beat of no other drummer, but got everyone else to march to his tune. Someone once called him a cross between a saint and a Tammany Hall politician; like the best crossbreeds, he managed to distil all the qualities of both and yet transcend their contradictions.

Explaining a contradiction nowThe contradiction is mirrored in the attitude of the Hindutva-inspired Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Mr. Modi was schooled, like other Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) pracharaks, in an intense dislike of Mahatma Gandhi, whose message of tolerance and pluralism was emphatically rejected as minority appeasement by the Sangh Parivar, and whose credo of non-violence, or ahimsa, was seen as an admission of weakness unworthy of manly Hindus. Hindutva ideologue V.D. Savarkar, whom Mr. Modi has described as one of his heroes, had expressed contempt for Gandhiji's 'perverse doctrine of non-violence and truth' and claimed it 'was bound to destroy the power of the country'.

But Prime Minister Modi, for all his Hindutva mindset, his admiration of Savarkar and his lifetime affiliation to the Sangh Parivar, has embraced Gandhiji, hailing the Mahatma and even using his glasses as a symbol of the Swachh Bharat campaign, linking it to a call to revive Gandhiji's idea of seva through the recent 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign.

This may, or may not, represent a sincere conversion to Gandhism. The Prime Minister is hardly unaware of the tremendous worldwide reputation that Mahatma Gandhi enjoys, and is too savvy a marketing genius not to recognise the soft-power opportunity evoking Gandhiji provides, not to mention the global public relations disaster that would ensue if he were to denounce an Indian so universally admired. There may, therefore, be an element of insincerity to his newfound love for the Mahatma, as well as a shrewd domestic political calculation.

But the ambivalence speaks volumes: when many members of Mr. Modi's BJP call for replacing Gandhiji's statues across the country with those of his assassin, Nathuram Godse, the Prime Minister seeks to lay claim to the mantle of his fellow Gujarati for his own political benefit. At the same time, there is also a tangible dissonance between the official governmental embrace of Gandhiji and the unofficial ideological distaste for this icon, that is privately promoted by members and supporters of the present ruling dispensation, some of whose members have not hidden their view that his assassination was, in their eyes, a patriotic act.

The vision of the MahatmaIt is a well understood reality that the vision of Gandhiji, an openly practising Hindu, differed greatly from that of Veer Savarkar and M.S. Golwalkar, the principal ideologues of the Hindu Mahasabha and its more militarised alter ego in the post-Independence era, the RSS and eventually, the BJP (formerly the Jana Sangh).

Gandhiji embodied the central approach of Advaita Vedanta, which preached an inclusive universal religion.

Gandhiji saw Hinduism as a faith that respected and embraced all other faiths. He was profoundly influenced by the principles of ahimsa and satya and gave both a profound meaning when he applied them to the nationalist cause.

He was a synthesiser of cultural belief systems: his signature bhajan of 'Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram' had another line, 'Ishwara Allah Tero naam'. This practice emerged from his Vedantic belief in the oneness of all human beings, who share the same atman and, therefore, should be treated equally.

Such behaviour did not endear him to every Hindu. In his treatise on 'Gandhi's Hinduism and Savarkar's Hindutva', the social scientist Rudolf C. Heredia places his two protagonists within an ongoing debate between heterogeneity versus homogeneity in the Hindu faith, pointing out that while Gandhi's response is inclusive and ethical, Savarkar politicises Hinduism as a majoritarian creed.

But Gandhiji's own understanding of religion, in Heredia's words, "transcended religiosity, Hindu as well as that of any other tradition.

It is essentially a spiritual quest for moksha but one rooted in the reality of service to the last and least in the world". Unlike Savarkar, who believed in conformity, Gandhiji was a synthesiser like no other who took care to include Indians of other faiths in his capacious and agglomerative understanding of religion.

He took inspiration from not just Advaita Vedanta but also the Jain concept of 'Anekantavada' – the notion that truth and reality are perceived differently by different people from their own different points of view, and that, therefore, no single perception can constitute the complete truth. This led him to once declare that 'I am a Hindu, a Muslim, a Christian, a Parsi, a Jew'.

Hinduism and Hindutva, as I have argued in my book *Why I Am a Hindu*, represent two very distinct and contrasting ideas, with vitally different implications for nationalism and the role of the Hindu faith. The principles Gandhiji stood for and the way in which he asserted them are easier to admire than to follow. But they represented an ideal that is betrayed every day by those who distort Hinduism to promote a narrow, exclusionary bigotry.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On the occasion of the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust, here are a few questions

Ramya Kannan

QUESTION 1
January 27 has been chosen as the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the holocaust, for a reason. Do you know why?

QUESTION 2
Did you know that the word Nazi is an abbreviation for Hitler's political party? Maybe we've given out too much already, but what does Nazi expand to (in German)?

QUESTION 3
Yet another question on etymology. The Nazi killing pogrom was called the Holocaust. Why was this word chosen?

QUESTION 4
While the Nazis targeted Jews, they also slaughtered other groups of people, in their effort to engineer the pure Aryan race, through a mixture of eugenics and murder. Name at least two other groups thus prosecuted.

QUESTION 5
When was the first concentration camp opened in Nazi Germany, and where?

Visual Question: Find the connection between these two images.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This film written, directed and starring Charlie Chaplin premiered on this day in 1931. **Ans: City Lights**
2. Across the world every year the last Sunday of January is observed as _____ Day to raise awareness about this disease. **Ans: Leprosy**
3. An Indian politician and Independence activist who was jailed during the Quit India Movement was born on this day in 1910. **Ans: Chidambaram Subramaniam**
4. The legendary band performed their last live gig, known as the 'rooftop' concert, on this day in 1969 for a limited audience. **Ans: The Beatles**
5. One of the first memorial museums established in India on Mahatma Gandhi. Where is the museum located? **Ans: Madurai**
Visual**:** Identify the man who invented a 3-D combination puzzle. **Ans: Erno Rubix**
Early Birds: C Saravanan | K.N. Viswanathan | Jagrati Shukla | Medhini Prabhakar | Akshat Tiwari

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

M R. B. M. Mehra, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi, wants to know the meaning of 'For want of a nail, the kingdom was lost.'

Everything is important. Nothing is small. The absence of what is considered small may lead to some disaster. The line is taken from the following verse:

For want of a nail the shoe was lost; For want of a shoe the horse was lost; For want of a horse the rider was lost; For want of a rider the battle was lost; For want of a battle the kingdom was lost. And all for the want of a horse-shoe nail.

Mr. S. Rajagopalan, Valasaravakkam, Madras, wants to know the meaning of 'dyed-in-the-wool'.

This is an idiom which means 'totally fixed in one's ideas, beliefs, etc.' It is used in a derogatory sense.

He is a dyed-in-the-wool conservative.
She is a dyed-in-the-wool socialist.

When wool is dyed or coloured before it is spun into yam, the colour is even and more lasting Of the blackest dye' or 'of the deepest dye' means 'of the worst kind'.

He is a rouge of the deepest dye.
He is a tyrant of the blackest dye.

Mr. B. Krishnamoorthy, Dayal Street, Coimbatore, wants to know whether the use of "offload" in the following sentence is correct: 'The driver and conductor are empowered to offload the passengers found smoking'. He feels that 'offload' should be used with inanimate things.

'To offload' means 'to unload something that is unwanted'.

He offloaded excess baggage.

Strictly speaking, 'offload' must go with inanimate things. It is used occasionally with animate beings also. Airlines seem to be fond of this word. They use it with baggage and also passengers.

Five passengers were offloaded.

The word 'collect' was originally used with inanimate things but now you can say, 'I will collect you from your office in the evening'. 'Pick up' is another expression that is used these days with human beings. 'I'll pick you up on my way back and drop you at home'. 'Collect' and 'pick up' were used originally with inanimate things but now even human beings are 'picked up' or 'collected' and 'dropped'. So don't feel offended when people want to 'collect you', 'pick you up', 'drop you' or 'offload' you. No disrespect is involved.

Mr. N. Uday Bhaskar, Governorpet, Vijayawada, wants to know the meaning of 'Aunt Sally'.

'Aunt Sally' is a game in which you throw sticks at the wooden image of a woman. You must hit the nose of the figure or break the pipe in its mouth. Figuratively, it means 'a woman or a thing that is subjected to general abuse and criticism, often undeserved'.

She is the Aunt Sally of the neighbourhood.
Published in The Hindu on December 18, 1990

Word of the day

Astute:
very clever, an ability to understand things clearly

Synonyms: shrewd, quick, sharp, intelligent

Usage: *Astute readers will have noticed the reference.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/astutepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /əstjuːt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Advocate-General told to take up issue of parking of vehicles on footpaths

Division Bench of High Court points out that even scrap vehicles are permanently left on the footpath at many places across city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday orally asked the State Advocate-General to take up with the appropriate authorities the issue of parking of vehicles on footpaths across the city as this menace is resulting in severe hardship for pedestrians.

A Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice P.S. Dinesh Kumar and Justice T.G. Shivashankare Gowda pointed out that people park their vehicles on footpaths and even junk vehicles are permanently left on the footpath in many places across the city.

"If something can be done with your intervention, it will be good for the citizens and Bengaluru city," the Bench told A-G Shashi Kiran Shetty.

The Bench pointed out about the issue of parking on footpath while referring to a petition in which a resident of Thyagarajanagar sought a direction from the court to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Pallike to fix hand railings for footpaths while complaining that his aged mother had fallen on the road due to their absence.

Man arrested for supplying banned e-cigarettes to retailers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch officials on Tuesday arrested a man and recovered e-cigarettes worth ₹3 crore from him. The accused, Shoaib, used to source e-cigarettes through an international courier from Dubai and store it at his brother's house in Sudduguntepalya.

He would later supply the cigarettes to his clientele through local delivery apps. Based on a tip-off, CCB officials tracked down the accused and arrested him from Sudduguntepalya. The police are further investigating him to ascertain his network.

Seven arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The narcotics wing of the CCB arrested seven peddlers and recovered synthetic drugs worth ₹1.5 crore from them.

Four among the accused are foreigners while the rest of them are from Kerala and other parts of India.

The accused are habitual offenders sourcing the drugs from their contacts to peddle in the city. The police are trying to track down their network for further investigation.

602 students from IIMB get summer internship placement this year

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A total of 602 eligible students from the Post-Graduate Programme in Management (PGP) and Post-Graduate Programme in Business Analytics (PGP-BA) in Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, (IIMB) were successfully placed for summer internships this year. This made it the largest batch of students placed from these two programmes.

While 484 (437 PGP and 47 PGP-BA) of these students were placed during the dedicated summer placements week (November 6 to 11), another 115 students (89 PGP and 26 PGP-BA) were placed in a subsequent rolling placement process.

Targeted drive

"The latter process included a targeted drive by Atypical Advantage to place 12 students with disabilities with leading corporates. Three PGP students sought and found summer internships on their own," a press release from IIMB said.

Ganesh N. Prabhu, chairperson, Career Development Services, and faculty and chairperson of the strategy area, IIMB, said: "The rolling summer placements saw many first-time recruiters offering roles in strategy, marketing, products, finance, analytics, and investments – some of the projects offered were more interesting and challenging than those offered during the summer placement week."

Consulting firms

The largest number of offers (158) were made by consulting firms and Accenture Strategy made a record 45 offers to the students.

"Yet the ratio of students interning in consulting fell marginally this year as many sought after finance, banking, and investment firms made more offers (130) this year," the release said.

APPOINTMENT

Nutan Vidyalaya Society, Kalaburagi-585 103

No.EST/APPT/AP/GIA/DC/26/2023-2024 Phone No: 08472-223248 Date :10-11-2023

Notification

This notification is subject to final judgment of writ petition No. 201376/2023.

"NAAC" Accredited "A" Grade College Applications are Invited for the Posts Of Assistant Professor in Aided Degree College.

In pursuance of the permission granted by the Commissioner , Dept of Collegiate Education, Bangaluru, Order No. (1) ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾಶಿಇ/36/ಹೈಕ/ರಾವೃಂ/ಖಾಹುಭ/ಗುವಿ/2018–2019, ನೇವಿ–2, ದಿನಾಂಕ 28–03–2023, (2) ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾಶಿಇ/112/ಹೈಕ/ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ/2016–2017/ನೇವಿ–2, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28-03-2023, and the Joint Director , Dept of Collegiate Education, Regional Office, Kalaburagi No.ಕಾಶಿಇ/ಪ್ರಾಕಕ/1309/ಖಾಹುಭ/03/2022–23/4417 ಮತ್ತು 4416 ದಿನಾಂಕ 31–03–2023 respectively applications are invited for Direct Recruitment to the vacant posts of Assistant Professor in various subject in N.V. Arts, Sri. Kanhyalal Malu Science and Dr. Pandurangrao Patki College of Commerce, Kalaburgi Aided Degree College.

Other than Kalyan Karnataka Region .

Sl.No.	Subject	Name of the Posts	No.of Posts	Reservation Applicable for Posts
1	English	Assistant Professor	01	Reservation not applicable for single post department.
2	Physical Education Director	Assistant Professor	01	Reservation not applicable for single post department.

Kalyan Karnataka Region (371 J)

Sl. No.	Subject	Name of the Posts	Kalyan Karnataka Region Local Cadre No.of Posts vacant.	Reservation Applicable for Posts
1	Kannada	Assistant Professor	02	SC -01, Gen- 01
2	Political Science	Assistant Professor	01	Reservation not applicablefor single post department.
3	History	Assistant Professor	01	Reservation not applicable for single post department.

Conditions :-

01) Bank DD for Rs.3,000 /- for G.M. Candidates and Rs. 2,000 /- for SC, ST Candidates, payable to the Secretary, Nutan Vidyalaya Society, Kalaburagi, along with the application and attested copies pertaining to Educational qualification, Cast certificate issued by competent authority with 371 J Certificate wherever applicable and Complete personal Bio-Data with passport size photograph should be sent to, The Secretary, Nutan Vidyalaya Society, Kalaburagi-585 103 by Registered post or Speed post within 21 days of this notification. The post applied for should be clearly mentioned on the envelope.
02) Educational Qualification : The candidates should have secured 55% or above marks in the subject concern in Post Graduate or Equivalent Examination (50% and above marks for SC and ST candidates). The candidates should have passed NET/SLET examination. The candidates with Ph.D Degree are exempted from NET/SLET examination. The required Ph.D Degree should be with course work. If a candidate has acquired or registered for PhD Degree before 11-07-2009, he / she will be subject to the conditions laid down by the UGC in its notification, dated 04-05-2016. For any recruitment, M.Phil Degree obtained after 11-07-2009 will not be considered.
03) Age Limit : As per the norms of the recruitment, the candidates should be within the minimum and maximum age limit (As per the Govt Order dated 20-06-2018 : ED/49/UPC/2018 the age limit for the candidates belonging to SC, ST and Cat- I, is 45 year, for OBC is 43 years and for GM is 40 years) .
Relaxation in Age Limit : For the candidates having full time teaching experience in their respective subjects in a private a aided colleges, the relaxation in age limit will be equal to the period of their teaching experience or 5 years which ever is less. The relaxation in age limit will be granted to the candidates after their teaching experience certificates are duly attested by the Joint Director, Regional Office and the Commissioner Collegiate Education Department.
04) Salary and Pay scale will be as per the norms of UGC and Govt of Karnataka.
05) The candidate already working in Govt / Aided institutions should have to produce no objection certificate from the concerned authorities .
06) Selection will be as per UGC and Govt norms.
07) Incomplete and in correct applications and applications received after the last date will not be considered.
08) The Dept / Govt reserves the right for withdrawal of selection process at any stage and withdraw of sanctioned of post. By mere submission of application and / or there on attending interview will not be considered as a claim for selection of the post.
09) The candidates should submit one copy of their application to Joint Director, Department of Collegiate Education, Regional Office, Government Degree College premises, Kalaburagi.
10) Application fees once paid will not be returned for any reason.
11) The date and place of interview will be intimated later and no T.A /DA will paid to the candidate for the attending the interview.
12) For more details and download the application please visit our Website: **www.nutanvidyalaya.org**

Sd/-Secretary, Nutan Vidyalaya Society, Kalaburagi.

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Professor, Associate Professor, Asst. Professor	CSE, Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning Artificial Intelligence and Data Science CSE (Cyber Security), IT, Mechatronics Engg., Mechanical Engg., EEE, ECE, Chemical and Bio-Tech Engg.,	M.E / M. Tech M.E / M. Tech with Ph.D Experienced / Freshers with 75% Marks / 7.5 CGPA in UG and PG can apply Candidates with Industrial experience in the relevant field can also apply.
	MBA and BBA	MBA with Ph. D
	Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and English	M. Sc. / M.A., with Ph.D

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Applications are invited for the following posts as shown against each department. Experienced teaching professionals having passion to serve in an educational institution and actively engage in Research & Innovation are welcome to apply.

Sl. No	Department	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor
1.	Computer Science & Engineering / Information Science & Engineering / CSE(Cyber Security) / CSE(AI & ML) / Artificial Intelligence & Data Science / Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning	-	3	28
2.	MCA	-	1	3
3.	School of Architecture	1	-	2
4.	Aerospace Engineering (BE-Aerospace Engineering, M.Tech-Aerospace Engineering)	-	1	2
	Assistant Professor for the following departments			
5.	Electronics & Communication Engineering			1
6.	Chemical Engineering			1
7.	Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering			1
8.	Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering			1
9.	Medical Electronics Engineering			1
10.	Physics			2
11.	Mathematics			3
12.	MBA			2

Qualification & Salary: As per AICTE / COA Norms.

Interested candidates may send their application in the prescribed format along with copies of testimonials within 10 days from the date of this advertisement to the Principal, MSRIT address by post / courier only. Prescribed application format is available in the website www.msrit.edu

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- For Applications and other details, visit our website: **www.kitsw.ac.in**
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Note:- The candidates who had already applied to our earlier advertisement No. Recruitment/01/2023, dated 24.03.2023, **need not re-apply.** However, they can send their updated Curriculum–Vitae (CV) as per the guidelines mentioned in **faculty recruitment tab** of our website: **www.kitsw.ac.in**

Sd/- CHAIRMAN

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Name of the Post	Pay Level as per 7th CPC Pay Matrix (Rs.)	Gross Salary per Annum (Rs. in Lakhs)	Max. Age (as on 01.01.2024)	No. of Posts
Information Security Officer	Level 12 (78800-209200)	17.62	50 years	01
IT Security Manager	Level 10 (56100-177500)	12.90	40 years	01

For further details viz. qualification, experience, procedure for submission of application etc., please visit website **www.icsi.edu/career** on and from **31st January, 2024.** Interested candidates may **apply only through electronic mode (Online).** Last date for submission of application (Online) is **20th February, 2024.** Reservation policy will be applicable as adopted by the "ICSI" in its Service Rules. The "ICSI" reserves the right to increase/decrease or even not to fill up any posts as per its requirement.

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Visvesvaraya Technological University
"Jnana Sangama" Belagavi –590 018, Karnataka State

Ref. NoVTU/BGM/RE/2023-24/IFT No.52/6014 Date:30 JAN 2024

Tender Notification-Two Cover System (e-Procurement Only)

The e-Tender is invited induplicate from eligible tenderers, registered Contractor, by the Registrar, Visvesvaraya Technological University, "Jnana Sangama", Belagavi-18, under standard tender document procedure K/W format for the work of Providing Furniture work, painting and other maintenance works to VTU i.NEC Hostel at VTU, "Jnana Sangama", Belagavi amounting to Rs.81,85,220/- The tenderers, who have executed similar nature of single work costing 50% of amount put to tender, shall only apply for this work. Other details log on to website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on 02-02-2024.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1015/KSMCA/2023-24 **Sd/-Registrar, VTU, Belagavi**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform and notified the General Public that my client Mr. Bora Ram Kotwal owner of the property bearing No.111/2, situated at Hebbagodi Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, presently comes under the limits of City Municipal Council (CMC), Hebbagodi, bearing Assessment Khatha No.6/111/2, by the virtue of Sale Deed dated:10.06.2022 registered as Document No.ABL-1-02879/2022-23 of Book I, stored in CD No. ABLD1192, registered in the Office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Basavanagudi(Attibele). After the execution of the said Sale Deed my client found that. Whereas his erstwhile owner Mr. T.K. Narasimha Reddy S/o. Late Krishna Reddy lost his original Sale Deed Dated: 25.08.2000, registered on 02.01.2001 as Document No.2513/2000-01 of Book I, at pages 154 to 157, Volume No.2229, registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal during the renovation of his house. In respect of which my client Mr. Bora Ram Kotwal has already filed a complaint before the Sub Inspector of Police, Hebagodi Police Station, Bengaluru City on 07/08/2023. Hence the finders are hereby requested to return the aforesaid original document if found to the undersigned forthwith and of any person found dealing with the aforesaid original document would be delt in accordance with law.

ROOPA SHETTY, Advocate
Lex Situs, No.810, 'BILWAPRIYA PLATINA', 2nd Floor, 27th Main Road, HSR Layout, Sector 1, Bangalore - 560102.
Phone: +91 9902026199 and 8088731020; Email:info@lexsitus.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our Clients, **Mr. Omprakash Kesavan Sivanesan, S/o. Kesavan Sivanesan,** Aged about 53 years and Ms. Nilima Madhusudan Omprakash, W/o. Omprakash Kesavan Sivanesan aged about 51 years with their permanent address at No.02, K7 residency, Marappa Road, Opposite Meghdooth Service Center, Jogupalya, Halasuru, Bengaluru-560008 and currently residing at 10007 Oak Tree Court, Lone Tree, CO 80124, United States of America are the owners of the property bearing No. 20, BBMP with the residential building comprising of Ground floor, first floor and second floor, situated at 16th Cross, 5th phase, J.P. Nagar (Sarakki), in BBMP Ward No.178 (Old No.57), Bengaluru-560078, measuring East-West 40 feet and North-South-60 Feet measuring in total 2400 sq. feet and in bound on the East by: site No. 21, West by: site No.19, Noth by : site No. 5 and 6, South by: Road. This is to further inform that the original sale deed dated 12.9.1988 executed by the Bangalore Development authority, Bengaluru in favour of Shri M.A.Shama Sundar, S/o B Ashwathnarayana registered as document no.7213/1988-89 of Book I, volume 2887, Page 31, in the office of the sub-registrar, Bengaluru in respect of the property mentioned above has been lost and is not traceable and has been reported to the concerned Police Station on 14.12.2023, through their General Power of attorney Shri Gopinath K.S. Our clients intend to sell this property another person, and if this document is found, please return to the address stated below within fifteen days (15days) of the publication of this notice failing which our clients will proceed with the abovementioned transaction.

Aman Nalina Lingesh and Parvathy R Nair Advocates
No. 404, 4th Floor, Prestige Center Point, Cunnigham Road, Bangalore - 560043.
nairparvathy@outlook.com aman01739@gmail.com
6362015184 / 9243475333
Date: 31.01.2024 Bangalore-

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, C.V. Raman Nagara Division, 8th Cross, 12th A Main Road, HAL 2nd Stage Indiranagara, Bengaluru - 560038

No: EE/CVR/KPPP/09/2023-24 Date: 29.01.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (CALL-5)

(Through GoK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Chief Commissioner / Zonal Commissioner, BBMP for the works mentioned below from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Approximate value of work (Rs in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
	Works Un-Reserved Category		
1	Pot holes filling in Ward No 111, Kaggadasapura. (Call-5)	15.00	37500.00
2	Pot holes filling in Ward No 115, Konena Agrahara. (Call-5)	15.00	37500.00
3	Pot holes filling in Ward No 112, New Thippasandra. (Call-5)	15.00	37500.00

Calendar of events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal from 31.01.2024. (2) Last Date for uploading the Filled proposals is 17.02.2024 up to 16:00 hours. (3) Date of Opening of Financial Proposals is 19.02.2024 after 16:30 hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, C.V. Raman Nagara Division

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸೊಸೈಟಿ(ರಿ) ಮೈಸೂರು
ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಅಭಿಯಾನ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು.
Email: dhomysore@gmail.com
rchomysore@gmail.com Tel No0821-2441988
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಎನ್.ಹೆಚ್.ಎಂ/ಜಿ.ಆ.ಸೊ/ಮೈ/23/2023–24 ದಿ: 25.01.2024

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಅಭಿಯಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ 2023–24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಚಾಲಕ ಸಹಿತ ವಾಹನ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನ (eproc.karnataka.gov.in) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಡಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಆರ್.ಬಿ.ಎಸ್.ಕೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ	ವಾಹನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ
1	ಮೈಸೂರು ನಗರ	04	1,39,200
2	ಮೈಸೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ	03	
3	ತಿ. ನರಸೀಪುರ	02	
4	ನಂಜನಗೂಡು	03	
5	ಹೆಚ್.ಡಿ ಕೋಟೆ	02	
6	ಹುಣಸೂರು	02	
7	ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ	02	
8	ಕೆ.ಆರ್ ನಗರ	02	

ವಿವರಗಳು: ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ ದಿ: 30.01.2024 ರಂದು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 03:00 ಗಂಟೆ. ಪ್ರೀ ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ ದಿ: 01.02.2024 ರಂದು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 03:00 ಗಂಟೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:05.02.2024 ರಂದು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 05:00 ಗಂಟೆ. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ ದಿ: 07.02.2024 ರಂದು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 12:30 ಗಂಟೆ. ಹಣಕಾಸು ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ ದಿ: 14.02.2024 ರಂದು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 03:00 ಗಂಟೆ. **ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ:** ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು. **ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಗಳು:** ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಂಘ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ: eproc.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರ್.ಸಿ.ಹೆಚ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು, ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಸದಸ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು

DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/977/2023-24

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
Executive Engineer, KNNL, KPC Division No-2, Bhalki.

No. EE/KNNL/KPC-2/BLK/PB-1/Tender/2023-24/1051 Dated: 24.01.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION/CALL-2
(ONLY THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM)
IN TWO COVER SYSTEM

Tenders in Electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" are invited on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore, by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, K P C Division No.2, Bhalki in Two cover systems, from the contractors enrolled in KPWD of Karnataka State who fulfill the qualifying conditions, for the works details mentioned below.

The work Indent no. 698, the amount put tender 1) Rs.204.703 Crores. Respectively and EMD amount is Rs. 2.42 Crores. And Class of Contractor as per E-portal **Previous Calendar of events**: a) The Contractor can have access to the e-tender document 25-01-2024, b) The Last date of Submission of completed tender documents 12-02-2024 @ 17.00Hrs c) Date of Opening of Technical Bid is 13-02-2024 @ 17.30 Hrs & Financial bid is 17-02-2024 @ 11.00 Hrs respectively. All details & information can be had from the office of the under signed during office hours and visit website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

DIPR/Bidar/259/KSMC&A/2023-24 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, KNNL, KPC, Division no-2, Bhalki.**

TAMIL NADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION
HEAD OFFICE, CHENNAI-10.

NOTICE INVITING SHORT TERM RE-TENDER
e-Tender Notice No.114/CED6/045004 /2023 Dt.30.01.2024.

e-tenders are invited for the following work from the Registered contractors **upto 2.00 P.M** on **14.02.2024** and will be opened on **15.02.2024 at 2.30 P.M.**

Sl.No.	Name of work	E.M.D in Rs
1.	Providing semi covered shed with Plinth platform of 15,000 M.T capacity (5x3000M.T) in TNCSC campus at Survey No.446/1 & 447/1 to an extent of 5.46.04 Hectare at Kattavakkam Village in Walajabad Taluk in Kancheepuram District	6,63,000.00

Schedule Downloading from website by Free of Cost:- **From 31.01.2024** to **14.02.2024 upto 2.00 P.M** Date of Opening of Online tender :- **15.02.2024 at 2.30 P.M** For further details please visit website:- **www.tntenders.gov.in**

DIPR/527/TENDER/2024 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

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SPEAKERS:
Jonathan Por Chairman
Camila Chen CMO
Kalene Tan Principal Capital Consultant
Grace Lim Managing Director from Antz Capital
Henry Lim Executive Director from Antz Capital
Shakthi V N Saravanan Founder, Promoter & CMD Shakthi Group of Company
A Man with a Mission ...Enable to Empower...
Session 1
Date: 30th January 2024 (Tuesday)
Time: 2.00pm - 6:00pm (IST)
Session 2
Date: 31st January 2024 (Wednesday)
Time: 9.00am - 1:00pm (IST)
Session 3
Date: 1st February 2024 (Thursday)
Time: 9.00am - 1:00pm (IST)
Venue:
Shakthi Crazy Park
BEML Layout, Off, Mysore Rd, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560098
Agenda
Gain Valuable Insights on:
• Why IPO your company?
• When is the best time to IPO?
• Who are your IPO team members?
• What are the options for IPO?
• How to IPO and increase valuation?
(Case Studies)
ORGANIZER: PIF CAPITAL
CONTACT:
Jagadeesh D N: +91 95381 88378 | Lingaraju: +91 80950 33944
Shivakumar: +91 88847 28516 | Chandrashekhar: +91 95380 22353
Pavan Kumar: +91 88847 29769 | Jai Ganesh: +91 97391 07131

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BUSINESS OFFERS

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PERSONAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I, MARIA Thomas Sampathraj, R/a CPRI quarters, New BEL Road, hereby declare that my original name is as given above and not Thomas Sampathraj as rendered in the ICSE pass certificate of my daughter Syona Baptista Thomas issued in the year 2014 with registration no EQ 80008754. Sworn before Notary B Chitra on 27-1-2024.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SAPNA M Guttikar w/o Laxman S Kulkarni residing at No. K-0103, Seshadri, Shriram Blue, Seegehalli Road, Medahalli, Bengaluru-560049, have changed my name to Sapna L Kulkarni vide Affidavit dated 30/01/2024 before Meer Hassan Notary Bengaluru.

I, VELANKANNI M, W/o Manikandan E, R/a No.26/14, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, Balaji Layout, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560033 have changed my name to Nithya Manikandan vide affidavit dt: 27.01.2024 sworn before Notary Udaykumar.K, B'luru

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD,
R/FIRST APPEAL NUMBER NO. 1162 OF 2018
FIXED ON 20/02/2024
District AHMEDABAD
Petitioner's Advocates,
MR. ADITYA A. GUPTA/
MR. MOHIT A GUPTA / MR. A. R. GUPTA
TUSHAR VEERENDRA SHAH
...APPELLANT(S)
VERSUS
AMBER FABRICS LTD ...RESPONDENT(S)
To
(1) AMBER FABRICS LIMITED (Earlier known as Boston Teknowsys (I) Ltd, Plot No. 16, 1st Floor, Srila Realty Layout, Madinaguda, Miyapur, Serilingampally Mandal, Hyderabad, 500049

Take notice that the Applicant (s) above-named having presented R/First **Appeal No. 1162/2018** arising from the judgment passed by the **Judge, Court No. 12, City Civil Court, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad** in City **Civil Suit number 5680 of 1996** to this High Court and the same having been presented in this Court on **26/02/2018**.

Whereas upon hearing and allowing the **civil applications No. 03 of 2023** (For Substitute Service) in R/First **Appeal No. 1162/2018 having on 9th day of January, 2024,** the Honourable Court **(Coram: Honourable MR. JUSTICE BIREN VAISHNAV and Honourable MS. JUSTICE NISHA M THAKORE)** ordered to issue Notice to respondent by permitting the petitioner to serve the respondent by substitute service by publishing the Public Notice in daily Newspaper which has circulation in Hyderabad and Bangalore.

You are hereby directed to take notice that the hearing of the said **R/First Appeal No. 1162/2018** will take place on **20th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024 at 11AM** peremptorily in this court and if no appearance is made on your behalf, by yourself, your advocate, or by someone authorized by law to act for you, it will be heard and determined in your absence

Witness SUNITA AGARWAL, Esquire the CHIEF JUSTICE at Ahmedabad aforesaid this **9th day of January, 2024.**

By the Court
(M. P. BHATT)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL- II, AT BENGALURU
4th Floor, Telephone House Building, Raja Bhavan Road, BENGALURU- 560 001
IN THE MATTER OF
O. A No. 535/2023

Between
ICICI Bank Ltd., ...Applicant
Versus
Krishnamurthy ...Defendant
To,
DEFENDANT:
Krishnamurthy,
Son of Boregowda, Aged about 48 Years, Residing at No. 101, S N Layout, 3rd Stage, Basaveshwara Nagar 4th Block, Bangalore 560 079. PAN No. ATYPB6497K. Phone No.9686518555 Email: krishna.mag@gmail.com

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF 1993 BY PAPER PUBLICATION

WHEREAS the Applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institution Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 27,90,559.67/- (Rupees Twenty-Seven Lakhs Ninety Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Nine and Sixty-Seven paise only)** together with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs.

You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of this summons or on **08/05/2024** at **11.00 A.M.** in person or by pleader/ Advocate duly instructed as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this 23rd day of January, 2024.

By order of the Tribunal
Registrar (c)
Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bengaluru

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL- II, AT BENGALURU
4th Floor, Telephone House Building, Raja Bhavan Road, BENGALURU- 560 001
IN THE MATTER OF
O. A. No. 538/2023.

Between
ICICI Bank Ltd., ...Applicant
Versus
Grace Medical System and another ...Defendants
DEFENDANTS :
1. Grace Medical System
Proprietor concern, No. 76, Room No. 1, Ground Floor, SB Complex, Vidyaranyapura, Sambram college, Bengaluru-560 097. Ph L 9632676032 Pan No. AIKPJ4863C
2. Mr. DS Jinerson
Son of Davidson, Aged about 38 years, Prop. of Grace Medical Systems, No. 19, "Chellans", Adarsha Nagar, Settihalli, Jalahalli, Near Defence Colony, Bangalore-560 014, Mob: 9632676032

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF 1993 BY PAPER PUBLICATION

WHEREAS the Applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institution Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 34,70,491.12/- (Rupees Thirty-Four Lakhs Seventy Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-One and Twelve paise only)** together with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs.

You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of this summons or on **20/06/2024** at **11.00 A.M** in person or by pleader/ /Advocate duly instructed as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this 23rd day of January, 2024.

By order of the Tribunal
Registrar (c)
Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bengaluru

ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED (ELCOT), CHENNAI - 600035
TENDER NOTICE

ELCOT invites bids for following tenders

Tender No.	ELCOT/Proc/OT/33746/ Centralised Monitoring System/2023-24	ELCOT/Proc/OT/33775/All-in-One-PCs-SCDRC/2023-24
Tender Details	Supply & Installation of Hardware for Centralised Monitoring System Project of TN Police Intelligence (CMS)	Supply of All-in-One-PCs for State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (SCDRC)
Pre- Bid Meeting	07.02.2024 @ 11.00 AM	05.02.2024 @ 11.00 AM
Tender Submission Due date and Time	04.03.2024 @ 03.00 PM	15.02.2024 @ 03.00 PM
Tender Opening Date & Time	04.03.2024 @ 04.00 PM	15.02.2024 @ 04.00 PM
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.3,00,000/-	Rs.75,000/-
e-Portal Charges	Rs.11,800/- (including GST)	Rs.11,800/- (including GST)

The Bidders may download the tender documents, help documents and user manuals from **https://tntenders.gov.in**

DIPR/479/Tender/2024

DY GENERAL MANAGER (PROCUREMENT)
ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED
692, II Floor, M.H.U. Complex, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035
e-mail: **procurement@elcot.in** URL: **www.elcot.in**

ಚಾಮುಂಡೇಶ್ವರಿ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಸರಬರಾಜು ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸ್ವಾಮ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿದೆ)
ನಿಗಮ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಖರೀದಿ ಶಾಖೆ,
ಚಾವಿಸನಿನಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು–570017.
Telephone No: 9448994705
E-mail ID: gmpurc@cescmysore.org

CHAMUNDESHWARI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Corporate Office, Procurement Section, CESC, Mysuru-570017.
Website: www.cescmysore.org

Company Identity Number(CIN): U40109KA2004SGC035177

CESC/GM(P)/DGM(P)/AGM-2 (P)/2023-24/19495 Date: 23.01.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

CESC, Mysore invites Short Term Tenders from eligible bidders for Services & Goods as mentioned below:

Sl. No	Service tender Name	Enquiry No/ Date
1	Providing goods vehicle services of 2500CC or higher capacity (Mahindra Bolero pickup or equivalent vehicle) along with driver to Mysuru circle coming under the jurisdictions of CESC on Monthly rental basis for a period of one year.	C2–5608/ 23-01-2024
2	Providing goods vehicle services of 2500CC or higher capacity (Mahindra Bolero pickup or equivalent vehicle) along with driver to Chamarajanagara-Kodagu circle coming under the jurisdictions of CESC on Monthly rental basis for a period of one year.	C2–5609/ 23-01-2024
3	Providing goods vehicle services of 2500CC or higher capacity (Mahindra Bolero pickup or equivalent vehicle) along with driver to Mandya circle coming under the jurisdictions of CESC on Monthly rental basis for a period of one year.	C2–5610/ 23-01-2024
4	Providing goods vehicle services of 2500CC or higher capacity (Mahindra Bolero pickup or equivalent vehicle) along with driver to Hassan circle coming under the jurisdictions of CESC on Monthly rental basis for a period of one year.	C2–5611/ 23-01-2024
5	Providing motor vehicle service with driver on monthly rental basis to Officers of **Mysore Zonal Office, Cha-Ko Circle** and **Kollegala Divisional** Jurisdiction, CESC.	C2–5612/ 23-01-2024
6	Providing motor vehicle service with driver on monthly rental basis to Officers of **Chamarajanagara Division** Jurisdiction, CESC.	C2–5613/ 23-01-2024
7	Providing motor vehicle service with driver on monthly rental basis to Officers of **Madikeri Division** Jurisdiction, CESC	C2–5614/ 23-01-2024
8	Supply of Rabbit ACSR Conductor to CESC	C2-5615/ 24-01-2024

The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through e-procurement portal http//www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 29-01-2024. For clarification contact help desk +91-8046010000/+91-8068948777 or e-mail address **support@eprochelpdesk.com**.

For Electricity related complaints Call: 1912

DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/967/2023-24 **Sd/- General Manager (Procurement), CESC, Mysuru.**

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.- 33004/99 REGD. No. D. L.-33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.-26122023-250897
CG-DL-E-26122023-250897
असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप-खण्ड (ii)
PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 5218] नई दिल्ली, शुक्रवार, दिसम्बर 22, 2023/पौष 1, 1945
No. 5218] NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023/PAUSHA 1, 1945

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 22nd December, 2023

S.O. 5448(E).— Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 1901(E) Dated:25/04/2023 , published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Subsection (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.),Maintenance, management and operation of NH206 in the stretch of land from Km. 207.800 to Km. 208.250 (Tumkur - Honnavar Section) in the district of SHIVAMOGGA in the state of KARNATAKA

And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in "Prajavani" and "Times of India" both dated 19-07-2023; under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act;

And whereas the Competent Authority has received objections filed under Section 3-C, considered and settled the same appropriately;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the competent authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the competent authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE : Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling within the stretch of land from Km 207.800 to Km 208.250 (Tumkur - Honnavar Section) of NH 206 in the state of KARNATAKA

State: KARNATAKA			District: SHIVAMOGGA		
S.No.	Survey / Plot Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (in Hectares)	Name of Land Owner/Interested Person
1	2	3	4	5	6
Taluk: Shivamogga					
Village: Vaadiahuda ward (Shimoga)					
1	352/55,353/56	Private	Wet	0.00256	Hasibakamara Sanjeeda W/o Late Mahmad Ismail
2	354/57	Private	Wet	0.000399	Sayyed Abdul Razak S/o sayyed Husen Khan
			Total	0.002959	

[F. No. RW/KNT-NH-206/km207.80/3D]
ABHAY JAIN, Dy. Secy.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2023-24/72
Dated: 22-01-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following work.

Item of Work	Appx. Value
(Re-tender) Outsourcing of the maintenance of Power cars at AC depot/ Mysuru for a period of 03 years.	Rs. 1,27,32,085.48

Last date for submission of bids:
Up to 11:00 hrs. of 13.02.2024

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer
Mysuru

PUB/653/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

IN THE COURT OF THE XI ADDL. DISTRICT, & SESSIONS JUDGE COMMERCIAL COURT, BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT, BENGALURU

Comm. Execution Case No. 124 of 2022

Between:
HINDUSTAN AERONAUTICS LTD.
A company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956, having its Registered Office at No. 15/1, Cubbon Road, Bangalore – 560 001, Represented herein by its Mr. Mihir Kanti Mishra General Manager, Aerospace Division.
Decree Holder

And:
C. RAJANNA AND OTHERS
Judgement Debtor

To.
C. Rajanna
Son of Sri Chikkamuniappa
Aged about 39 years, Residing at No.1, Janatha Colony Road, 1st Street, Dommasandra, Sarjapur Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.
Judgement Debtor No.1

NOTICE

Whereas the Decree Holder above named has instituted the above execution petition seeking execution of judgement and decree dated 07.10.2020 passed in Comm. O.S. No. 5322 of 2012. As per order dated 08.08.2023 on I.A. No. 2, this Court has issued an order of attachment in respect of the schedule property belonging to Judgement Debtor No.1. Further, as per order dated 16.12.2023, the court has directed the Decree Holder to take steps for issuance of notice of order dated 08.08.2023 passed on I.A. No.2, through paper publication. You are hereby summoned to appear before this Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed, and able to answer all material questions relating to the execution, on 16.02.2024 at 11.00 a.m. to answer to the same. Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day aforementioned, the petition will be heard and determined in your absence.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Sy No.74/2 situated at Thigalachoudanehalli Village, Sarjapur Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring 0.06 ½ guntas bounded as follows:
East: By Road; **West:** Sy. No. 74/2 belonging to D.K Shyleja; **North:** Sy.No.73 belonging to D.K Shylaja; and **South:** Sy. No. 74/2 belonging to D.K Geeta.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 29th day of January 2024.

ADVOCATE FOR THE DECREE HOLDER
SUNDARASWAMY & RAMDAS
Advocates,
No.24, "Keshava Nivas" Kalidasa Road, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560 009.

By Order of the Court
Sheristedar
XI Addl District & Sessions Court
Bengaluru Rural Dist., Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT,
Sri. Gange Gowda, Smt. Nalini Gowda, Sri. B.S. Natraj, Sri. D.V. Suresh, Smt. Jyothi. S and Sri. S. M. Somashekariah are the absolute owners of the property described in the Schedule hereunder.
It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owners. All persons having any claims against to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, Joint Development Agreement, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof**, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that Piece and parcel of the land bearing **Survey No. 41 (Old Sy. No. 41/1)** measuring to an extent of **5 Acres 01 Gunta,** situated at Chikkanayakanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and Bounded on:
East by: Siddhapura Border;
West by: Sy.No.68;
North by: Road, Sy.No.39 & 40;
South by: Road, Sy.No.44 & 42;
Dated this 31st day of January 2024 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, First Floor, 25th Cross, 24th Main HSR Layout, Sector 2, Bangalore-560102.
Phone: 080-65555914
Mobile: 9945688974, 9164150690, 6362102374, 9980910789

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following work.

Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2023-24/70
Dated: 19-01-2024

Item of Work	Appx. Value
(Re-tender) Annual Maintenance Contract including supply and installation of must change materials/spares and scheduled maintenance of Tower Wagons over Mysuru division for a period of 2 years.	Rs. 1,48,29,930.17

Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/ 2023-24/69
Dated: 19-01-2024

Item of Work	Appx. Value
(Re-tender) Power supply arrangements to 22 Nos. of Lifts over Mysuru Division.	Rs. 84,69,384/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Up to 11:00 hrs. of 12.02.2024

Tender Notice No. Y/E.29 /2023-24/71
Dated: 22-01-2024

Item of Work	Appx. Value
(Re-tender) Provision of Solar plants in Harihar - Haveri section (Harihar, Chalgeri, Ranibennur, Byadgi & Haveri) and Amaravathi Colony - Kotturu section (Amaravathi Colony, Teligi, Harapanahalli & Bennehalli stations)	Rs. 1,62,94,916/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Up to 11:00 hrs. of 13.02.2024

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer
Mysuru

PUB/652/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

(Signal & Telecommunication Workshop) Podanur
E-TENDER NOTICE No. SGW-S-203-BA-37-24-1-615
Dated: 23.01.2024

For and on behalf of the President of India, The Chief Workshop Manager, Signal and Telecommunication Workshop, Podanur, Coimbatore – 641023, invites E-Tender for the following works as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** Tenderers/Contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted. The Bid Security deposit should be made through online payment gateway or through available modes as mentioned in Tender document.

1	**Name of work:** Bright annealing of Magnetic components of Relays and DLB Instruments under controlled atmosphere - 42,272 kgs of S&T Workshops, Podanur for a period of two years	
2	Approximate cost of the work	**₹ 32,42,262.40/-** Including GST @ 18%
3	Earnest Money to be Deposited	**₹ 64,900/-**
4	Completion period of work	**24 Months**
5	Date and time of closing of tender	**15.00 hrs. of 15.02.2024**
6	Website particulars	**http://www.ireps.gov.in**

For further details, visit internet site **www.ireps.gov.in** or contact office of the Chief Workshop Manager, Signal and Telecommunication workshop, Podanur, Coimbatore-641023.

Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
ISRO TELEMETRY TRACKING AND COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC), CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
Plot No. 12 & 13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560058. Ph: 080-28094182, 4541, Fax: 080-28094180

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

1. On behalf of President of India, **Item rate E-Tender** is invited from Contractors of appropriate class for the following works.

NIT No.	**ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-TN-89/ 2023-24, dated 30.01.2024**
Name of work	**Renovation of Aryabhatta Conference Hall at SCC-ISTRAC, Bengaluru (Electrical works)**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 21.73 Lakhs**
Tender document details	**E-tender**
Period of completion	**02 months**
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From 16.00 hrs. on 31.01.2024 to 13.02.2024 till 16.00 hrs.**
Bid clarification	**From 11.00 hrs. on 01.02.2024 to 14.02.2024 till 16.00 hrs.**
Last date and time of reply to bid clarification	**15.02.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	**16.02.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Due date and time of opening of tenders	**19.02.2024 after 11.00 hrs.**
EMD	**Rs. 43,460.00**

2. Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details in website **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com

NIT No.OSSC/Mktg(Hort) - 62/2024

e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of Certified Turmeric Rhizomes for Kharif - 2024

OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender only from Producers (and in case of GOI PSUs, their authorized Agencies) on item wise rate contract basis **for Procurement of Certified Turmeric Rhizomes for Kharif-2024** in double cover system through online mode only for the work below.

Name of the work	**Purchase of Certified Turmeric Rhizomes for Kharif-2024.**
No of work	**One**
Availability of Bid documents in Portal	**15.00 hours on dt.01.02.2024 to 17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	**17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	**10.30 hrs of dt.22.02.2024**

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions and other details of tender specified in the tender schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation can also be seen in the said website.

CAD-3909: **Sd/- Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.**
OIPR-01106/11/0080/2324

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com

NIT No.OSSC/Mktg(Hort) - 53/2024

e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of Certified Seed Potato for Kharif - 2024

OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender only from Producers (and in case of GOI PSUs, their authorized Agencies) on item wise rate contract basis **for Procurement of Certified Seed Potato for Kharif-2024** in double cover system through online mode only for the work below.

Name of the work	**Purchase of Certified Seed Potato for Kharif-2024.**
No of work	**One**
Availability of Bid documents in Portal	**15.00 hours on dt.01.02.2024 to 17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	**17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	**10.30 hrs of dt.22.02.2024**

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions and other details of tender specified in the tender schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation can also be seen in the said website.

CAD-3914: **Sd/- Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.**
OIPR-01106/11/0085/2324

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com

NIT No.OSSC/Mktg(Hort) - 55/2024

e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of Certified Chilli Seed for Kharif - 2024

OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender only from Producers (and in case of GOI PSUs, their authorized Agencies) on item wise rate contract basis **for Procurement of Certified Chilli Seed for Kharif-2024** in double cover system through online mode only for the work below.

Name of the work	**Purchase of Certified Chilli Seed for Kharif-2024.**
No of work	**One**
Availability of Bid documents in Portal	**15.00 hours on dt.01.02.2024 to 17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	**17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	**10.30 hrs of dt.22.02.2024**

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions and other details of tender specified in the tender schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation can also be seen in the said website.

CAD-3916: **Sd/- Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.**
OIPR-01106/11/0087/2324

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com

NIT No.OSSC/Mktg(Hort) - 61/2024

e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of Nutmeg Seedling for Kharif - 2024

OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender only from Registered Nursery Owner (and in case of GOI PSUs, their authorized Agencies) on item wise rate contract basis **for Procurement of Nutmeg Seedling for Kharif-2024** in double cover system through online mode only for the work below.

Name of the work	**Purchase of Nutmeg Seedling for Kharif-2024.**
No of work	**One**
Availability of Bid documents in Portal	**15.00 hours on dt.01.02.2024 to 17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	**17.00 hrs of dt.21.02.2024**
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	**10.30 hrs of dt.22.02.2024**

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions and other details of tender specified in the tender schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation can also be seen in the said website.

CAD-3913: **Sd/- Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.**
OIPR-01106/11/0084/2324

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & CO-OPERATIVE
(Directorate Of Soil Conservation)
Jharkhand Agriculture Machinery testing & Training Center (JAMTTC)
4th Floor Room No. – 403, Krishi Bhawan Kanke Road ranchi-834008
E-mail-edjamttc@gmail.com, Website- www.jamttc.org.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR
SELECTION OF TPAA FOR MECHANIZATION SCHEME

Request For Proposal (RFP) For Selection Of Third Party Assessment Agency (TPAA) For Monitoring & Evaluation of State Mechanization Scheme "Distribution Of Agriculture Equipment to Farmers, Women SHG Etc." implemented/ implementing During Financial Year 2020-21 to 2024-25.

Executive Director (Ag Engg) JAMTTC Ranchi, working under Department of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Co-operative , Govt. of Jharkhand invites Technical and Financial Proposals from consultants to provide services as Third Party Assessment Agency (TPAA) for Monitoring & Evaluation of Schemes implemented/ implementing under the Department of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Co-Operative "Distribution of Agriculture Equipment to Farmers, Women SHG Etc." implemented/ implementing During Financial Year 2020-21 to 2024-25. The document can be downloaded from the website https://jamttc.org or https://Jharkhand.gov.in from 31.01.2024, (16.00 hrs) to 20.02.2024 (13.00 hrs) or can be obtained personally from office of JAMTTC, Krishi Bhawan, Kanke Road, Ranchi during office hour from 11.30 am to 15.30 pm on payment of document fee in shape of required bank draft. The last date for submission of proposal is 20.02.2024 (upto 4.00 pm) only through speed post or by hand.

Response to this RFP shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of this document with full understanding of its implications. This section provides general information about the issuer, important dates and addresses and the overall eligibility criteria for the parties. The RFP/tender document cost of **INR 10,000/-** is to be submitted vide crossed demand bank draft from any Nationalized Bank/ Scheduled Bank in favor of "Executive Director (A Engg) JAMTTC Ranchi" payable at Ranchi.

Sd/-
Executive Director (Ag Engg)
JAMTTC Ranchi

PR 317415 Agriculture (23-24)_D

JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)
Singhbhum Electric Supply Area, Jamshedpur, 1st floor Co-Op. Bank Building Bishtupur, Jamshedpur.
e-mail- sesa.jsr13@yahoo.in Ph. No. 0657-2320495 (o).

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender is invited from reputed tenderers having sound financial status with experience of following same type of civil works.

Sl. No.	NIT No.	Name of Work	Estimated cost (In Rs.)	Earnest money to be deposited (In Rs.)	Cost of BOQ including GST @ 18 % (Non-refundable) (In Rs.)	Time of completion of work
01	**394/PR/JBVNL/2023-24**	Construction of control room building, boundary wall, drain, pathway and area development of switchyard at proposed 33/11 KV P/S/S, Ruaam, Jadugora.	Rs. 1,27,90,000.00	Rs. 2,55,800.00	Rs. 11,800.00 (10,000.00+1,800.00)	180 Days

Availability of tender document on website	30.01.2024 at 2:00 pm
Last date and time for uploading of E-Tender	26.02.2024 at 2:00 pm
Date and time for opening of tender Part-I (Technical and Commercial)	26.02.2024 at 3:00 pm
Date and time for opening of tender Part-II (Price Part)	Further communicated
Tendering Officer and address for communication	Electric Supply Area, Jamshedpur

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को 18003456570(कॉल सेन्टर) पर दर्ज करायें।

Sd/-
General Manager (Technical)
Electric Supply Area, Jamshedpur

PR 317366 (Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd) 23-24 (D)

भारत सरकार / **Government of India**
अंतरिक्ष विभाग / **Department of Space**
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन / **Indian Space Research Organisation**
भारतीय सुदूर संवेदन संस्थान / **Indian Institute of Remote Sensing**
देहरादून / **Dehradun-248001**

iirs

सं.भा.सु.सं.सं./अकादमिक/2024/No. IIRS/Acad/2024 दिनांक/Dated: 23.01.2024

Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS) announces following training and education programmes in Geospatial Technology and Applications:

1. **M.Tech. in Remote Sensing & GIS with specialisations in** (i) Agriculture & Soils, (ii) Forest Resources & Ecosystem Analysis, (iii) Geoinformatics, (iv) Geosciences, (v) Marine & Atmospheric Sciences, (vi) Natural Hazards & Disaster Risks Management, (vii) Satellite Image Analysis & Photogrammetry, (viii) Urban & Regional Studies, (ix) Water Resources (Last date to apply: 31.03.2024)
2. **P.G. Diploma in RS & GIS with specialisation in** (i) Agriculture & Soils, (ii) Forest Resources & Ecosystem Analysis, (iii) Geosciences, (iv) Marine & Atmospheric Sciences (v) Natural Hazards & Disaster Risks Management, (vi) Satellite Image Analysis & Photogrammetry, (vii) Spatial data Science (viii) Urban & Regional Studies, (ix) Water Resources (Last date to apply: 31.03.2024)
3. ***Master of Science in** Geo-information Science & Earth Observation with specialisation in Geoinformatics **(M.Sc.-GI)** (Last date to apply: 31.03.2024)
4. ***P.G. Diploma in** Geo-information Science & Earth Observation with specialisation in Geoinformatics **(PGD-GI)** (Last date to apply: 31.03.2024)
5. **ISRO Sponsored NNRMS Faculty Development Program** on 'Remote Sensing & GIS Technology and Applications' (Last date to apply: 17.03.2024)

Note: Apart from above courses, a few other courses are also announced. **For further details about the** courses, eligibility criteria, no. of seats, course fee, duration, age limit, etc., refer ***https://admissions.iirs.gov.in/coursecalender***
IIRS reserves the rights for selection, screening and conduct of the courses.
**Approval process ongoing for conduct of the program*

निदेशक, भा.सु.सं.सं./Director, IIRS

IN THE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL JUDGE, AT BENGALURU
P & SC No. 690/2023

BETWEEN:
1. Mrs. MOAZZAM UNNISA, W/o. Late Nadeem Ahmed, Aged about 46 years,
2. Miss. Manaal Ahmed, D/o. Late Nadeem Ahmed, Aged about 10 years, (Being a minor is been represented by the Petitioner No.1 i.e., the mother and natural guardian)
R/at A-202, Spectra Palmwood, Apartment, Nallurhalli Main Road, Siddapura, Whitefield, Bengaluru - 560 066. **...PETITIONERS**
AND: -NIL- ...RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above named Petitioner Nos. 1 & 2 i.e., the Wife and daughter of late Nadeem Ahmed, died on 27.06.2022, have filed the above petition under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925, seeking to grant a succession certificate in their favour in respect of the schedule A & B properties, and to allow the Petitioners to operate the Locker bearing No.149, in HDFC Bank Ltd, BDA Complex, 4th B Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru which was in the name of late Mr. Nadeem Ahmed and also permit the us to operate the Demat Account bearing No. 8500503039 in ICICI Securities Ltd, and to receive the dividends and sale proceeds of the shares in the companies mentioned in the schedule B properties and also grant a succession certificate in the names of the Petitioner No.2 in respect of the schedule C properties.

Interested parties are hereby warned to appear before this court in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the **21st day of February, 2024 at 11.00** Clock in forenoon to show cause against the Petition failing wherein, the matter will be heard and determined exparte.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

Locker bearing No.149, in HDFC Bank Ltd, BDA Complex, 4th B Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru which was in the name of late Sri. Nadeem Ahmed.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

Demat Account in ICICI Securities Ltd, bearing No.8500503039. The Demat Account was in respect of the under mentioned shares in various companies / security.

Sl.No.	Investment Category Security Name	Quantity	Sl. No.	Investment Category Security Name	Quantity
1	MARUTI SUZUKI INDIA LTD (MARUTI)	11.00	29	ZOMATO LIMITED (ZOMIM)	3,800.00
2	SAMVARDHANA MOTHERSON INT LTD (MOTSUM)	600.00	30	HCL TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED (HCLTEC)	100.00
3	SANSERA ENGINEERING LIMITED (SANEN)	350.00	31	INFOSYS LTD (INFTEC)	150.00
4	TATA MOTORS LIMITED (TATMOT)	1,135.00	32	LATENT VIEW ANALYTICS LIMITED (LATVIE)	645.00
5	SPICEJET LIMITED (SPILI)	2,800.00	33	MPHASIS LIMITED (MPHLIM)	66.00
6	AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LTD (AUSMA)	508.00	34	TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES LTD (TCS)	50.00
7	BALAJI FINSERV LIMITED (BAFINS)	12.00	35	TECH MAHINDRA LIMITED (TECMAH)	134.00
8	HDFC ASSET MANAGEMENT CO LTD (HDFAMC)	55.00	36	WIPRO LTD (WIPRO)	570.00
9	HDFC BANK LIMTED (HDFBAN)	150.00	37	ZEE ENTERTAINMENT ENTERPRISES (ZEENET)	1,320.00
10	HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CO (HDFC)	48.00	38	COAL INDIA LIMITED (COALIN)	87.00
11	ICICI BANK LIMITED (ICIBAN)	510.00	39	NATIONAL ALUMINIUM CO LTD (NATALU)	1,200.00
12	INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD (INDHO)	870.00	40	STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LTD (SAIL)	1,000.00
13	INDUSIND BANK LIMITED (INDBA)	186.00	41	TATA STEEL LIMITED (TATSTE)	144.00
14	LIFE INSURANCE CORP OF IND LIC (LIC)	77.00	42	AMI ORGANICS LIMITED (AMIORG)	155.00
15	MANAPPURAM FINANCE LIMITED (MANAFI)	1,200.00	43	APOLLO HOSPITALS ENTERPRISES L (APOHOS)	42.00
16	MOTIAL OSWAL FINANCIAL SERVICE (MOTOSW)	530.00	44	AUROBINDO PHARMA LTD (AURPHA)	290.00
17	ONE 97 COMMUNICATIONS PAYTM (ONE97)	70.00	45	BIOCON LIMITED (BIOCON)	440.00
18	RBL BANK LMITED (RBLBAN)	880.00	46	DR REDDYS LABORATORIES LTD (DRREDD)	100.00
19	SBI CARDS AND PAYMENT SERV LTD (SBICAR)	175.00	47	JUBILANT PHARMOVA LIMITED (JUBLIF)	155.00
20	STATE BANK OF INDIA INDIA (STABAN)	170.00	48	POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDI (POWGRI)	166.00
21	YES BANK LIMITED (YESBAN)	6,500.00	49	RELIANCE POWER LIMITED (RELPOW)	27.00
22	UPL LIMITED (UNIP)	390.00	50	RELIANCE INDUSTRIES (RELIND)	242.00
23	GMM PFAUDLER LTD (GUJMAC)	80.00	51	AVENUE SUPERMARTS LTD DMART (AVESUP)	47.00
24	ITC LIMITED (ITC)	350.00	52	INDIAMART INTERMESH LIMITED (INDMAR)	21.00
25	TITAN COMPANY LIMITED (TITIND)	128.00	53	WESTERN INDIA SHIPYARD LTD (WESIS)	2,500.00
26	BARBEQUE NATION HOSPITALITY (BARNAT)	170.00	54	BHARATI AIRTEL LTD (BHAAIR)	200.00
27	DEVYANI INTERNATIONAL LIMITED (DEVIN)	1,700.00	55	ROUTE MOBILE LTD (ROUMOB)	110.00
28	INDIA RAIL CAT AND TOUR IRCTC (INDRAI)	650.00			

SCHEDULE 'C' PROPERTY

50% share in the Provident Fund Account bearing No.PY/KRP/2233337/10002 and also the Employee's Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme ('EDLI') bearing No.PY/KRP/2233337/10002 of Late Nadeem Ahmed.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this the 19th day of January, 2024.

ADVOCATE'S NAME AND ADDRESS:
UNNI KRISHNAN M, Advocate,
No.46, 1st A Cross, Near ISRO, RMV II Stage, Bangalore 560 094

By order of this Court
***Sd/-* Assistant Registrar**
Principal District & Sessions Judge, Bangalore.

IN THE COURT OF THE 30th ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, AT BENGALURU
G & WC No. 47/2023

BETWEEN:
MRS. MOAZZAM UNNISA, W/o. Late Nadeem Ahmed, Aged about 46 years, R/at A-202, Spectra Palmwood Apartment, Nallurhalli Main Road, Siddapura, Whitefield, Bengaluru - 560 066. **...PETITIONER**
AND: - NIL- ...RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above named Petitioner i.e., the wife of late Nadeem Ahmed has filed the above petition under Section 7(1)(a)(b) of The Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, seeking to appoint her as a guardian of the minor child Miss. Manaal Ahmed and to appoint her as a guardian of the properties belonging to the minor Miss. Manaal Ahmed i.e., the Schedule A to E properties, and also to permit the petitioner to convey the ½ or 50% undivided right, title and interest of the minor child Miss. Manaal Ahmed in the Schedule A & B properties.

Interested parties are hereby warned to appear before this court in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the **21st day of February 2024 at 11.00 Clock** in forenoon to show cause against the Petition failing wherein, the matter will be heard and determined exparte.

SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.168, Old Khata No.2056, New Khata No.3020/2056/168, formed in converted Sy. No.98/6, converted from the Agricultural to non agricultural residential purposes, vide Order No. B.DIS.ALN.SR. (EAST)269/2002-03, dated 04.02.2003, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District, Bengaluru, situated at Rachenahalli Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, now comes under the jurisdiction of Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bengaluru, measuring East to West 70 feet and North to South 40 feet, in total measuring 2800 sq. ft. and bounded on the:
East by : Road, West by : Site No.12, North by : Site No.167, South by: Site No.169

SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.420, BDA Khat No.420, carved out of Sy. No.44/1P1, situated at Kyalasanahalli Village, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, converted vide Official Memorandum bearing No. BDS.ALN.(E) SR(KH) 75/09-10, Dated: 16.11.2009, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru, in the residential layout formed by Kanakashree House Building Co-Operative Society Limited, of the lands at Kyalasanahlli Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk and further duly approved by Bengaluru Development Authority, vide its order bearing BDA/TPM/PL-09/5905/2011-12, dated 14.02.2012, measuring East to West 12.19 meters and North to South 9.14 meters, and bounded on the:
East by : Sy. No.44/1 Property, West by : 9.14 meters Road, North by : Site No.419, South by : Site No.421

SCHEDULE "C" PROPERTY

Locker bearing No.149, in HDFC Bank Ltd, BDA Complex, 4th B Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru which was in the name of late Sri. Nadeem Ahmed.

SCHEDULE 'D' PROPERTY

Demat Account in ICICI Securities Ltd, bearing No.8500503039. The Demat Account was in respect of the under mentioned shares in various companies / security.

Sl.No.	Investment Category Security Name	Quantity	Sl. No.	Investment Category Security Name	Quantity
1	MARUTI SUZUKI INDIA LTD (MARUTI)	11.00	29	ZOMATO LIMITED (ZOMIM)	3,800.00
2	SAMVARDHANA MOTHERSON INT LTD (MOTSUM)	600.00	30	HCL TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED (HCLTEC)	100.00
3	SANSERA ENGINEERING LIMITED (SANEN)	350.00	31	INFOSYS LTD (INFTEC)	150.00
4	TATA MOTORS LIMITED (TATMOT)	1,135.00	32	LATENT VIEW ANALYTICS LIMITED (LATVIE)	645.00
5	SPICEJET LIMITED (SPILI)	2,800.00	33	MPHASIS LIMITED (MPHLIM)	66.00
6	AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LTD (AUSMA)	508.00	34	TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES LTD (TCS)	50.00
7	BALAJI FINSERV LIMITED (BAFINS)	12.00	35	TECH MAHINDRA LIMITED (TECMAH)	134.00
8	HDFC ASSET MANAGEMENT CO LTD (HDFAMC)	55.00	36	WIPRO LTD (WIPRO)	570.00
9	HDFC BANK LIMTED (HDFBAN)	150.00	37	ZEE ENTERTAINMENT ENTERPRISES (ZEENET)	1,320.00
10	HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CO (HDFC)	48.00	38	COAL INDIA LIMITED (COALIN)	87.00
11	ICICI BANK LIMITED (ICIBAN)	510.00	39	NATIONAL ALUMINIUM CO LTD (NATALU)	1,200.00
12	INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD (INDHO)	870.00	40	STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LTD (SAIL)	1,000.00
13	INDUSIND BANK LIMITED (INDBA)	186.00	41	TATA STEEL LIMITED (TATSTE)	144.00
14	LIFE INSURANCE CORP OF IND LIC (LIC)	77.00	42	AMI ORGANICS LIMITED (AMIORG)	155.00
15	MANAPPURAM FINANCE LIMITED (MANAFI)	1,200.00	43	APOLLO HOSPITALS ENTERPRISES L (APOHOS)	42.00
16	MOTIAL OSWAL FINANCIAL SERVICE (MOTOSW)	530.00	44	AUROBINDO PHARMA LTD (AURPHA)	290.00
17	ONE 97 COMMUNICATIONS PAYTM (ONE97)	70.00	45	BIOCON LIMITED (BIOCON)	440.00
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22	UPL LIMITED (UNIP)	390.00	50	RELIANCE INDUSTRIES (RELIND)	242.00
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24	ITC LIMITED (ITC)	350.00	52	INDIAMART INTERMESH LIMITED (INDMAR)	21.00
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26	BARBEQUE NATION HOSPITALITY (BARNAT)	170.00	54	BHARATI AIRTEL LTD (BHAAIR)	200.00
27	DEVYANI INTERNATIONAL LIMITED (DEVIN)	1,700.00	55	ROUTE MOBILE LTD (ROUMOB)	110.00
28	INDIA RAIL CAT AND TOUR IRCTC (INDRAI)	650.00			

SCHEDULE 'E' PROPERTY

50% share in the Provident Fund Account bearing No.PY/KRP/2233337/10002 and also the Employee's Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme ('EDLI') bearing No.PY/KRP/2233337/10002 of Late Nadeem

Will not support BJP in anything illegal; Cong. allowed growth of Hindutva in State, says HDK

Because of Congress' mistakes, Mandya is beginning to resemble the coastal districts. People of Mandya are soft, tolerant, and innocent, says State president of Janata Dal (S)

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Accusing the Congress of allowing the growth of Hindutva ideology in Karnataka, former Chief Minister and JD(S) State president H.D. Kumaraswamy said that the Janata Dal (Secular) would not support all activities of the BJP. The two parties are in alliance ahead of Lok Sabha elections.

Addressing mediapersons in Bengaluru on Tuesday, he said, "Because of Congress' mistakes, Mandya is beginning to resemble the coastal districts. People of Mandya are soft, tolerant and innocent. Is saffron politics growing because of me? Saffron politics is growing because of Congress, which is strengthening such (Hindutva) organisations."

He cited the recent incidents in Chamarajanagar and Arsikere where the Congress Minister and Congress legislator, respectively, were allegedly intolerant to cultural activities depicting Lord Ram.

Former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy at a press meet in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

'Stand on hijab same'

In his first reaction on communal issues after joining the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA), the former Chief Minister said, "I am telling BJP that I will not support them in any illegal activities. Even today my stand on the hijab issue remains the same."

He had opposed the previous BJP regime's ban on hijab in classrooms.

He pointed out that he had questioned the lack of transparency in the collection of donations for building the Ram temple in Ayodhya. Incidentally, the controversy over hoisting the saffron flag at Keragodu in Mandya district is the first major communal incident in Old Mysore region – where JD(S) has a strong base of supporters – after the BJP and JD(S) entered into an alliance.

The former CM was reacting to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's accusations that the JD(S) leader, alongside the BJP, was inciting violence by visiting Keragodu village in Mandya district that has remained tense after the district administration brought down a saffron flag from a 108 ft. tall flag post and hoisted the tricolour in its place.

"What connection do I have with the incident? I did not instigate violence. BJP had organised the protest and they had invited me. My followers had also invited me. During my 13-minute speech at Keragodu, I did not discuss Hindutva or the bhagwa (saffron flag). I have only spoken about the failure of the government and also the local legislator who requires maturity and training. I have asked the Chief Minister to take action against erring officials."

'What is wrong with saffron shawl?'

On being questioned about wearing a saffron shawl, Mr. Kumaraswamy said, "Is there anything wrong in wearing a saffron shawl? I have also worn a blue shawl in the past when I have attended functions organised by Dalit organisations. Why are you (Congress) so upset about me wearing saffron, which is part of the national flag?"

JD(S) has almost merged with BJP, says DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who is also KPCC president, on Tuesday said that the Janata Dal (Secular) leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy has "almost merged JD(S) with the BJP."

Speaking to reporters, the KPCC chief said, "Mr. Kumaraswamy may choose to wear a saffron shawl or any other shawl, that is his party's choice. BJP is trying to find a political base in Mandya and in the process I don't know who is going to swallow whom."

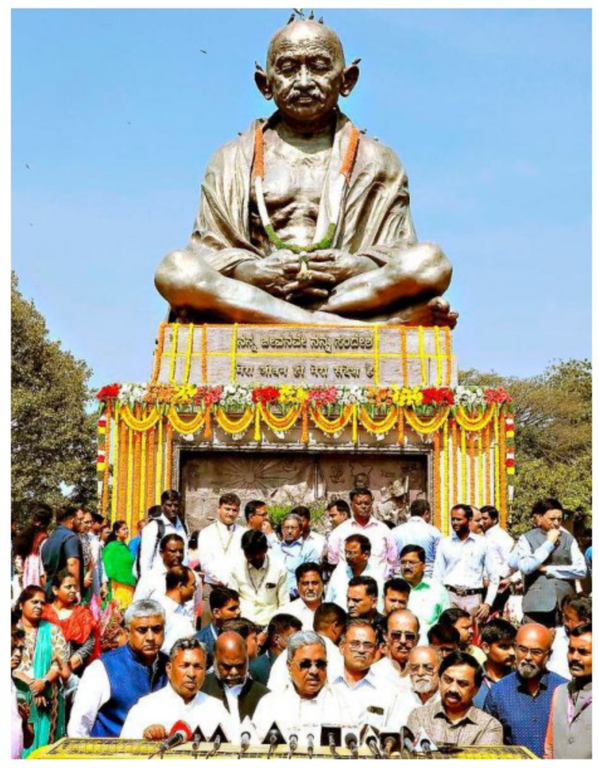
Asked about the controversy around the saffron flag in Mandya, he said, "They are trying to provoke innocent villagers with an intention to disturb law and order in the district. The BJP and JD(S) are trying this new experiment in the district. The people of Mandya are secular and tolerant."

Flag row is part of BJP, Sangh Parivar's agenda for political gain ahead of LS polls: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, on Martyrs' Day, said that the unrest in Keragodu village in Mandya district was part of the larger communal agenda of BJP and Sangh Parivar.

On social media, the Chief Minister on Tuesday alleged the BJP and Sangh Parivar had put religious harmony at peril by publicly portraying "the ideology of Nathuram Godse." "Today is the day the father of our nation Mahatma Gandhi became a martyr. The message of Gandhi, who lived for truth, non-violence, peace, harmony and tolerance, are more relevant today than ever. But forces who believe in Hindutva politics have hatched a conspiracy to oust the Gandhian ideology from the country," Mr. Siddaramaiah alleged.



Chief Minister Siddaramaiah addressing the media after paying respects to Mahatma Gandhi on his death anniversary in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"The action of hoisting saffron flag on a flag post meant for only the national flag on government land in Keregodu indicates communal agenda rather than their devotion towards Lord Hanuman," he argued.

He said he strongly believed that people of Mandya district would defeat the conspiracy jointly hatched by the BJP, Sangh Parivar and now their alliance partner JD(S). Mandya was known for religious harmony besides being the land of several progressive movements including that of farmers, he said, adding that people of Mandya would never give space for anti-Constitutional forces and anti-Gandhian ideologies.

Opposition to national flag

Taking exception to the BJP's demand for replacing the national flag with the saffron flag in Keregodu, he said people would know the reason behind such a demand if they understand that the RSS had always opposed the national flag. In fact RSS ideologue Golwalkar had maintained in his book *'Bunch of Thoughts'* that it is not possible to accept the tricolur as national flag, he recalled. The national flag had not been hoisted on the RSS National headquarters in Nagpur for 52 years, he said.

The BJP and RSS, which have been opposing the national flag all along, are now using the religion as a shield to oppose the flag, he alleged.

He alleged that the BJP and the Sangh Parivar had created communal tension in Mandya district to reap political benefits ahead of the Lok Sabha polls. The fact that the JD(S) too has publicly joined hands with such efforts shows their craving for power and "ideological and moral bankruptcy" of that party, he alleged. Pointing to JD(S) leaders publicly stating that they were abiding by the diktats of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Prime Minister Amit Shah, he said it is now proved that the real high command for the JD(S) were Mr. Modi and Mr. Shah. "The JD(S) leaders, who are basking in the glory of saffron shawl given to them by the BJP are unmindful of the disservice they are causing to Karnataka which is the abode of harmony and tolerance," he argued.

On Gandhi

Earlier, addressing a programme organised by the KPCC to mark Martyrs' Day, the CM alleged that Godse, the man who killed Gandhi, was the deity of RSS and BJP. "Mahatma Gandhi was a great Hindu. The ones who shot the great bhakt are now talking about Hindutva. Those who support Godse, the assassin of Gandhi, who wanted Ramarajya in the country, are claiming that they are the only Hindus," he said.

From Page One

Keragodu flag incident: FIR filed against Hindutva activists

According to the complaint, a crowd of 400 to 500 people had gathered at the flagstaff in Keragodu under the leadership of the accused and others to prevent the officials including Assistant Commissioner Shivamurthy, Executive Officer Veena and Shivakumar Biradara from discharging their duty to replace an illegally hoisted saffron flag and replace it with the national flag.

After the saffron flag was lowered with the help of the police around 9 a.m. on Sunday, about 400 to 500 people had illegally gathered around the flag post even though prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the CrPC had been imposed up to a distance of 200 metres from the flag post. The protesters had tried to physically prevent them for replacing the saffron flag with the national tricolour, jostled with them and created confusion in the area, the complainant alleged.

"Creating documents"

Meanwhile, former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy accused the State government of "creating documents" pertaining to permission given to the erection of flag post by the Keragodu Gram Panchayat. He claimed that the conditions in approval letters were changed twice.

"While the saffron flag was allowed to fly between January 20 and 25, the villagers hoisted national flag on January 26. What were the authorities doing between January 20 and 25?" he asked.

Allegations baseless

However, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge said that there was no basis for the allegations. The permission for the trust was based on goodwill and undertaking that the national flag will be hoisted, he said.

"The flag post was chained and locked by those involved. A gas cutter had to be used to cut the chain to access the flag post," he said.

₹3.97 lakh crore credit potential for State in 2024-25: NABARD estimate

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has estimated the credit potential for Karnataka at ₹3.97 lakh crore for 2024-25.

The credit potential for the agriculture sector, including the farm credit of ₹1,54,11738.36, has been estimated at ₹1.85 lakh crore (46% of the total credit plan). The credit for MSME sector has been estimated at ₹1.58 lakh crore (40%) and other priority sector activities at ₹0.54 lakh crore (14%).

NABARD has been complementing the efforts of State in the wake of the severe drought situation by extending financial support of ₹990 crore for 119 irrigation projects and ₹611 crore for drinking water projects under RIDF. FILE PHOTO

PLPs for all 31 districts

NABARD prepared Potential Linked Credit Plans (PLPs) for all 31 districts of the State after detailed consultations with various line departments of the government, banks and other stakeholders, to map credit potential under the priority sector.

T. Ramesh, Chief General Manager (CGM), NABARD, said that estimated a credit potential of ₹3.97 lakh crore for priority sector lending in Karnataka during 2024-25 which is 10.67% higher than the previous years' credit projection. It said the total number of land holdings in the State increased from 75.80 lakh (2010-11 Census) to 86.80 lakh in 2015-16, operating an area of 118.05 lakh hectares with the share of small and marginal farmers at 80%. The average size of land holding is 1.36 hectare in Karnataka is marginally higher than the all India average of 1.08 hectare.

NABARD organised the State Credit Seminar for Karnataka on Tuesday and it was chaired by Shalini Rajneesh, Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner.

He said NABARD has been complementing the efforts of State in the wake of the severe drought situation by extending financial support of ₹990 crore for 119 irrigation projects and ₹611 crore for drinking water projects under RIDF. It had sanctioned ₹290 crore under the Micro Irrigation Fund for promoting sustainable irrigation practices, during the current year.

NABARD is piloting the Farmers Producers Organisations (FPOs) Accelerator Project with 30 FPOs from across the State, for establishing better backward and forward linkages and leading the way for other FPOs in the State.

He said the process of computerising 5,491 Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PPACS) in the State to enable cooperative societies to offer seamless services to member farmers was under way.

Hegde seeks month's extension to submit caste census report

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Chairman of Karnataka Permanent Commission for Backward Classes K. Jayaprakash Hegde, has written to the government to extend his tenure by a month to enable him to complete the Socio Economic Survey (caste census) Report.

Government sources said Mr. Hegde, whose extended tenure is set to end on Wednesday, has sought an extension till the end of February. The government is expected to grant it, sources said. "The commission has told the government that the report is almost ready and requires time for completion. An official letter has been sent to the government seeking the extension," sources said.

By late on Tuesday evening, the sources said that they were yet to get yet to receive the official order from the government.

The commission under Mr. Hegde is working on preparing the report on the basis of the 2015 socio-economic survey conducted during the H. Kantharaj Commission. The submission of the caste census report is much awaited as dominant castes are opposed to the report while the most backward classes are awaiting it.

Suresh Kumar stages dharna

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Minister and BJP MLA Suresh Kumar staged a dharna in front of the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) demanding justice to young job aspirants.

The legislator alleged that a fight between the KPSC chairman and its secretary had led to distress among job seekers who come from places across Karnataka seeking information, but are denied entry into the KPSC office. "It is not good for Karnataka that its youth become cynical since they have to work across several departments for a long time to come."

Mr. Kumar said that he had written twice to the Chief Minister, met the KPSC chairman and secretary besides speaking to Energy Minister K.J. George on the delay in providing appointment letter to the youth.

"Job aspirants are only asking for the results and appointment letters that are legally due to them. People inside KPSC do not understand the plight of the youth that spend money to reach Bengaluru to enquire about the status of their appointment order," he said.

E-mail ID: cebuildings_orissa@yahoo.co.in; cebuildings@rediffmail.com; Tel. - (0674)-2391523
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA
NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

File No- B-I-SIRD & P.R.-01/2023 Lr. No.- 2882 Dt. 19th Jan. 2024

Invitation For Bids

Bid Identification No. C.E.-CUM-ADDL.SECY (B) - 58 / 2023-24

1.	The Chief Engineer-cum-Addl. Secretary, Works Dept., Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE only, for the work, **"Construction of Residential Hostel (G+4) for participant with capacity of 100 Rooms at SIRD&PR, Bhubaneswar for the year 2023-24" amounting to Rs.11,50,00,000/- (Approximate)** as detailed below.		
2.	Nature of work	:	Building Work
3.	No. of work	:	01 No.
4.	Bid Cost	:	₹ 10,000/-
5.	Class of Contractor	:	'A' / Special Class
6.	Availability of Bid Documents in the website	:	From dt.31.01.2024 to 17:00 Hours of dt.15.02.2024.
7.	Date of Opening of Bids	:	Dt. 16.02.2024 at 11:30 AM
8.	The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.		

B-1698 : Chief Engineer-cum-Addl. Secretary, Works Dept., Odisha
OIPR-34117/11/0097/2324

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing , 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road,
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383. Website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-42/43/574/2023-24 Date:30.01.2024

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item rate Tenders under two cover system are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Class-I (Electrical) Contractors registered in KCEI who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:

Name of the work : EP-42 (1) Providing Power Infrastructure to Tertiary Treatment Plant (TTP) and Jackwell Pumphouse at KIADB Narasapura Industrial Area, Kolar District. **(2)** Providing Power Infrastrcuture and Streetlights to Harjenahalli Sub Layout, Vemgal Industrial Area, Kolar. **(3)** Arranging Power Supply to TTP at Vasanthanarasapura Industrial Area & Intake Tank at Bheemsandra at Tumakuru.

EP-43 (1) Providing Basic Electrical Infrastrcuture Facilities and Street Lights to Kapnoor Industrial Area, 3rd Phase, 2nd Stage, Kalaburgi District. **(2)** Providing Basic Electrical Infrastrcuture to Adinarayana Hosahalli Industrial Area, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.

For EP-42 : Last date for submission of bids is: **12.02.2024 upto 04:30 pm.**

For EP-43 : Last date for submission of bids is: **14.02.2024 upto 04:30 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer - 1

DIPR/CP/JA/3307/2023-24

How to fight water scarcity in summer? Make water conservation a law, say activists

Bengalureans are set to face a more severe water crisis this summer given that it is a drought year. Activists weigh in on the inadequacy of our laws to ensure that water is used judiciously

Rasheed Kappan
BENGALURU

The scarcity of water in Bengaluru has forced people to depend on tankers. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Barely weeks from a scorching summer, Bengalureans are deeply worried about a perennial problem that just does not seem to go away: Drinking water woes. Can a smart water-pricing strategy boost conservation or is a separate law the only way to give it some teeth?

Many water experts will tell you this for the failure of conservation efforts so far: Despite the enormous costs involved in pumping Cauvery water from over 120 kms, it is supplied at ₹7 per kilo litre in the city. "For a thousand litres, you are paying just ₹7-8. That is cheap, and people don't feel the pinch. There is no limit in supply, and there is no incentive to save water," as Senior Scientist A.R. Shivakumar, a Water Management Advisor to multiple State Governments, puts it.

However, this would have to be put in the context of treating water as a public good. "This call for monetizing water beyond a certain slab is also linked to deliberately creating scarcity. Obviously, things like rationing will have to happen. And like in electricity, you may want to ensure that there is no wastage by educating people, rather than just letting the economy take over," says water activist Kshitij Urs.

A law for water conservation

The city seriously lacks a law that mandates water conservation. "It is free for all now. If you want to use one lakh litres a month, do you think there is any restriction? No. You have the ability to pay, you pay and get it. Conservation measures should be enforced for every house, every apartment, institution, hotel and every industry," says Shivakumar.

So, how should consumption be measured and what is the pricing strategy to adopt? Srikant Narasimhan, Bengaluru Navanirman Party (BNP) General Secretary and Bangalore Apartments Federation (BAF) Founder, has a suggestion: "For an individual house with five to six people, the rough water usage should be about 500 litres per house per day. This means 15 kilo litres a month, of which only 30% should be Cauvery water."

The rate should be kept low for anything less than 5 kilo liters of Cauvery water per house, he points out. "Currently, they charge apartments a flat rate of ₹25 per kiloliter, which is exorbitant and ridiculous. There should be a proper slab structure, with low rates for 0 to 5 kl and 5 to 10 kl. Let the rate be ₹50 or ₹60 for more than 10kl. That is how you should penalise over-usage," Srikant explains.

Ration water, treat overuse as luxury

Shivakumar calls this rationing. "Instead of giving whatever water consumers want to use, you restrict supply. Treat anything beyond the World Health Organisation (WHO) mandated volume, as a luxury. Charge them Rs 100 or even Rs 150. Then there will be an incentive for them to go for Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) and other conservation methods such as aerators. People will, for instance, think twice before standing under a shower for a longer time," he says.

A vendor carrying drinking water cans for distribution. K. MURALI KUMAR

One of the best conservation methods is to price it correctly, agrees Vishwanath Srikantaiah, a noted specialist in the water conservation field. "There is a willingness to pay, but no willingness to charge. Unless we get our act together and get the true cost of water, it will not be conserved. By merely appealing to the good sentiments of the people, it doesn't get conserved. So pricing is crucial."

In Kshitij's view, however, "monetising water would be counterproductive. "But having said that, the largest context is to democratize the process of water security and right to water, which comes only by ensuring conservation is not just about using an efficient tap but conserving your lakes," he explains.

He draws attention to Dharwad and Belagavi, where privatization happened in the name of 24/7 supply. "People who could afford it actually wasted a lot of water. They said they would pay for it and wash their cars, while people in the slums were deprived because they couldn't pay."

Some water for all, not all water for some

Distribution is another issue. "There is a lack of distributed justice. Some water for all, not all water for some. That should be the philosophy to drive us. We should look at universal connection and a democratic reporting at ward level. That every household in the ward is connected to the water supply network and it is getting some water. Of course, there is a costing issue in outer wards, because initial connection cost is the largest barrier to water connections," says Vishwanath.

At the community level, rainwater harvesting systems have been set up in many apartments although there is no way to track their numbers. Other conservation methods such as groundwater recharge pits, individual house water-metering and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) treated water for car-cleaning and gardening are being implemented. But these are yet to make a big impact at the larger city level.

"Rain Water Harvesting helps in keeping the apartments less reliant on outside sources of water," says Srividhyaa Murali, a Federation member. "Many apartments, on their own, have installed water meters and it has a significant impact on reducing the consumption. Once people can see how much they are spending for water for their own household, they take steps to reduce the cost by reducing consumption," she notes.

Water aerators: tap-level conservation

Water aerators have emerged as one of the simplest solutions. "Many apartment committees provide water aerators to residents or insist that residents install aerators which reduces the flow of water per tap. Besides, many apartments have STPs with dual piping in which treated sewage water is sent back to flushing the toilets. This reduces the amount of fresh water needed," informs Srividhyaa.

The inexpensive supply has, however, made many consumers lax about water utilization. Srikant elaborates, "The globally accepted norm is to use 135 litres per person per day, but we all end up using 300 per person per day. Typically, in Bengaluru, we use 300 to 400 litres per person per day. I actually take a bath with five to six mugs of water. Even half a bucket of water makes a huge difference, provided everybody does it."

Reviving 'Half Bucket Challenge'

In March 2019, BAF with over 70,000 flats and two lakh residents had actually launched a 'Half Bucket Challenge" to address the acute water crisis that year. The challenge was to bathe with only half a bucket. This applied to toilet flushes too. As he notes, "Many of them come equipped with only one button. There should be two. One which entirely flushes out the water, and a smaller one that releases only that is needed."

The Federation has now proposed to revive the challenge this year. Co-Founder Arun Kumar says, "This summer is going to be harsh on us. Water levels are really low. You don't need a bathtub, or a shower going on relentlessly, you can have a good bath with half a bucket of about 25 litres."

Treated water, a growing resource

To see these efforts really make an impact, conservation should go hand-in-hand with a willingness to use treated waste water. This is possible, says Vishwanath, because the city has enough and more treated waste water. "Thanks to the NGT (National Greens Tribunal), the treatment quality has improved in several STPs. For example, at Jakkur or Vrishabhavathi Valley STP, they treat the wastewater to drinking water standards. But it is being let off to the drain," he points out.

The tertiary treated water meets the BIS 10500 drinking water standards, he notes. "So, if you are able to put that to productive use, we won't even have a resource scarcity. We should draw up a plan to reuse it indirectly. Fill up the lakes, allow it to recharge the aquifers, pick it up from ground water, treat it and supply it as drinking water, so that the yuck factor is taken care of."

He estimates that the tertiary treated water volumes in Bengaluru is now more than 200 Million Litres per Day (MLD), including the output from Vrishabhavathi Valley STP, Jakkur STP (15 MLD), Cubbon Park (4 MLD) and Raja Canal (40 MLD). Besides, several apartments are now keen to either sell their excess treated water or supply it to the construction industries. They are now in talks with multiple civic agencies to also use the treated water in parks, bus washing and for other utilities.

Currently, the city's drinking water requirement is met by 1,450 MLD supplied from the Cauvery, and about 700 MLD from groundwater resources through borewells. This is expected to be boosted by another 775 MLD once the Cauvery V Stage is commissioned in April this year.

NSRCEL IIM Bangalore and SIDBI launch pre-seed deep-tech accelerator fund

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

IIM Bangalore's NSRCEL and SIDBI have collaborated to establish a pre-seed fund, specifically for start-ups in the deep tech and emerging businesses area. The MoU signed between the two organizations laid the foundation for a multi-year relationship to nurture startups and lead them towards scaling up their business activities.

Over the past twenty years, NSRCEL has been supporting early-stage ventures in India, incubating more than 1600 start-ups and mentoring many more. The organization's singular focus has been on supporting founders who are building disruptive solutions in their early stages. It provides support to startups and entrepreneurs through various programs, including incubation, mentorship, and educational initiatives. The center aims to create an ecosystem that nurtures and accelerates the growth of early-stage ventures, said a release.

"We are thrilled to embark on this transformative journey with SIDBI, a partnership that echoes our commitment to fostering innovation and empowering the entrepreneurial spirit. Together, we aim to cultivate a robust ecosystem for deep-tech and emerging ventures, driving positive change and creating lasting impact. With this initiative, NSRCEL is not only marking its dedication to supporting start-ups but also venturing into direct investment, amplifying our role in shaping the future of entrepreneurship", said Anand Sri Ganesh, CEO of NSRCEL.

SIDBI, set up on 2nd April 1990 under an Act of Indian Parliament, acts as the Principal Financial Institution for Promotion, Financing and Development of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector as well as for co-ordination of functions of institutions engaged in similar activities.

To support the "India of Tomorrow" and early-stage startups in impact areas SIDBI has partnered with the leading incubators of the country, for seed funding of such start-ups. The seed fund corpus will support tech start-ups in healthcare, sustainability, defence innovations and many more.

Cottonian boys of 1974 batch go back to school dressed in uniforms

The 1974 batch holds a unique place in the history of Bishop Cotton Boys' School, as it is one of the few batches that witnessed the transition from British Wardens to Indian Principals

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Around 25 former students of the Bishop Cottons Boys' School, belonging to the class of 1974, returned to their alma mater along with their wives on 28 January, 2024. They turned up 50 years after passing out of the school, looking natty in their newly-stitched school uniforms. Dressed in iconic khaki uniform and house badges, they took a nostalgic journey through the corridors and classrooms of the school, reliving cherished memories, said a release from the batch of 1974.

The former students pose for photographs. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

They saw the transition

The 1974 batch holds a unique place in the history of Bishop Cotton Boys' School, as it is one of the few batches that witnessed the transition from British Wardens to Indian Principals. While the last Warden was Rev. I. L. Thomas, the first Principal was Mr. A. T. Balraj, the release said.

A photo session was also planned to capture the essence of their school days. The school Principal, Alistair R.A. Freese, had agreed to wear his teacher's gown, adding a touch of authenticity to the celebration. He joined the old boys for a faculty-themed photo opportunity.

The big names

The release noted that among the distinguished alumni of the class of 1974 were two personalities from filmdom namely -- Prabhu Ganeshan, an accomplished Kollywood actor and producer, the son of the thespian Shivaji Ganeshan, and Lucky Ali, a renowned Bollywood singer, songwriter, composer, and actor, who is the son of the iconic Hindi film comedian, Mehmood of yesteryear.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JANUARY 31, 1974

Five-year Term for Mayor suggested

Bangalore, Jan. 30: The Mayor of Bangalore, Mr. A.K. Ananthakrishna, to-day expressed the view that the office of the Mayor should be for a term of five years and not one year as it is at present

Mr. Ananthakrishna who steps down as Mayor tomorrow, told newsmen here that the one-year period was too short to provide civic amenities and to implement projects in the interests of the citizens. He, therefore, wanted the proposed legislation for evolving a common Municipal Act for municipalities and local bodies to provide for a five-year term for both the Mayor and the Municipal Council as recommended by the All India Mayors' Council.

Top Priority for Irrigation in State's Fifth Plan

Bellary, Jan. 30: Laying the foundation for the Rs. 2 lakh centenary hall of the Municipal Junior College here to-day, the Chief Minister Mr. Devaraj Urs, said that during the State's Fifth Plan, irrigation and electricity would be given top priority. The present day education only paved the way for unemployment, indiscipline and violence, he said. The request for contribution of "Rs. 1 lakh from Government would be favourably considered," he said and added that he would permit the Bellary Municipality to donate Rs. 50,000.

The Finance Minister, Mr. M.Y. Ghorpade, who presided, said that during the Fifth Plan in the State ten lakh more pupils would attend primary schools whereas 40 lakhs were attending at present.

FILM REVIEW

A gripping reflection of society's unfair power structures

Prithvi Konanur's *Hadinelentu*, on the aftermath of a leaked teen sex tape, reflects society's deep-seated caste divide and economic inequality

Vivek MV

Harsh truths of life Stills from *Hadinelentu*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Hadinelentu (Kannada)
Director: Prithvi Konanur
Cast: Sherlyn Bhosale, Neeraj Mathew, Nagendra Sha, Sudha Belawadi, Bhavani Prakash
Runtime: 125 minutes
Storyline: A self-recorded sex tape of two 17-year-olds gets leaked on the internet, leading to irreparable damage in the lives of every stakeholder

In a striking scene from *Hadinelentu* (*Seventeeners*), two teenagers – Deepa (Sherlyn Bhosale) and Hari (Neeraj Mathew) – are called to the principal's chamber. Their leaked sex tape, filmed inside a classroom, has spread online like wildfire.

"He is a boy, but you, being a girl, should have been careful," says the vice-principal (a superb Rekha Kudligi) to Deepa. Later, when their parents are informed about the issue, Deepa's sister asks her to quit her studies and help her mother, who works as a cook at a government school.

In two scenes, director Prithvi Konanur establishes society's deep-seated gender and economic inequalities. *Hadinelentu,* which hit the screens on January 26, has been a festival favourite for over a year. After premiering at the Busan International Film Festival, the film opened in the Panorama Section at the International Film Festival of India in Goa in 2022.

Prithvi, director of *Pinki Elli* and *Railway Children,* is one of the poster boys of Kannada's parallel cinema resurgence. Yet, *Hadinelentu* is as good as any mainstream movie. It may not have several well-known faces, but the actors at its disposal and Prithvi's taut writing ensure a solid drama that grows into a gripping thriller.

Deepa is a Dalit girl and Hari hails from a Brahmin family. Caste had no place in their teenage love but it rears its ugly head when the issue boils down to reputation. Students from "good family backgrounds" tend to be treated leniently, while those like Deepa, who are from an oppressed community, need to fight it out to survive in the system. It doesn't matter if Deepa is a volleyball champion, as she is forced to sacrifice her dreams.

The film reflects the skewed balance of power in society when it shows the affluent boy's family having multiple options to bail themselves out of the situation.

Hadinelentu gets even better when it stops judging its characters who initially come across as unidimensional. For instance, an OBC teacher is suddenly revealed as selfish and we see the boy's parents become less harsher on the girl. Even the vice president, aware of the corruption around her, turns sympathetic towards the girl.

That's when Prithvi unleashes his biggest twist; the issue falls at the mercy of the country's complicated legal system. As we sit on the edge of our seats praying for these teenagers, the film also warns us of how involving ourselves in some risky practices could land us in legal trouble.

Hadinelentu is a reflection of our times. Teachers being petrified of the possibility of college students sharing the video on Instagram and Facebook tells us how social media will always remain a boon and a bane. The biggest triumph of *Hadinelentu* is that it leaves one with lots to discuss without lecturing viewers about its intentions.

Apart from a solid effort from the leads, the performances from Sudha Belawadi, Bhavani Prakash, and Nagendra Sha add to the movie's realistic tone. It's surprising how *Hadinelentu* hardly fumbles. That's what makes the film world-class.

Hadinelentu is currently running in theatres

Paint your past

Step back in time and unleash your creativity at a workshop inspired by the Museum of Art & Photography's (MAP) 'What the Camera Didn't See' exhibition.

This immersive experience will transport you to the early days of photography, where black and white images lacked the vibrancy and detail we're used to today. Back then, artistic minds turned to paint, adding layers of colour, shine, and highlights to breathe life into their photos.

Drawing inspiration from the exhibition's featured artists – Alexander Gorlizki and Pink City Studio – who reinterpreted historical photographs, this workshop is your chance to reimagine your own personal photos. Whether it's a faded family portrait or a cherished travel snapshot, bring it along and discover the magic of transforming it with paint.

This is a chnace to breathe new life into old memories, create playful narratives, and explore a unique form of artistic expression.

Open to anyone aged 10 and above, the workshop encourages families to participate together and collaborate on reimagining their stories. Imagine grandparents adding their memories to a childhood photo, or siblings working together to create a fantastical scene around a vacation picture.

The possibilities are endless, and the experience is sure to be both enriching and bonding.

Join MAP on this artistic journey and discover the forgotten art of painting on photographs. Let your creativity flow freely as you experiment with colours, textures, and storytelling techniques from the past. Rediscover the power of personal photographs and create something truly unique and meaningful.

On February 4, 11 am to 1 pm, at MAP HDFC Ltd Learning Centre (Lower Ground Floor). Open to ages 10 and above. For more information, visit map-india.org.

FILM REVIEW

Here pluses outweigh the minuses by far

Vivek MV

Case of Kondana (Kannada)
Director: Devi Prasad Shetty
Cast: Vijay Raghavendra, Bhavana Menon, Kushee Ravi, Rangayana Raghu
Runtime: 143 minutes
Storyline: A couple of deaths in a fictional place called Kondana connects a rookie cop, a bunch of rowdies, a helpful doctor and an experienced police officer, as their lives are changed forever in one dreadful night.

The issue with the 2021 suspense thriller *Seetharam Benoy Case No. 18*, starring Vijay Raghavendra and directed by Devi Prasad Shetty, was that it tried too hard to be a thriller. Thankfully, with *Case of Kondana*, also starring Vijay, Devi Prasad Shetty has made a thriller without the pretentiousness we saw in *Seetharam Benoy*; almost every scene in *Case of Kondana* has a purpose, as it nicely sets up what's going to happen next.

The movie begins with ACP Lakshmi (Bhavana Menon) investigating a serial killer case. Even as Lakshmi gets close to her target, the director jolts us by spicing up the plot with another crime episode involving the protagonist, sub-inspector Wilson (Vijay Raghavendra), a fresher in the police department.

The film's writing focuses on the psyche of each of its characters and connects it with major twists of the story. Wilson reacts to situations without thinking much, while Lakshmi takes the law into her own hands while dealing with criminals. Even if they are morally right, their actions come back to haunt them.

Others in the mix are Wilson's girlfriend Sahana (Kushee Ravi), a helpful doctor, a pani puri vendor who is worried about his son's deteriorating health, and a gang of rowdies.

Director Devi Prasad puts an interesting spin on the thriller template that we are used to. The all-important crime at the fictional place, Kondana, and the incidents that lead to it are purely accidental. It's refreshing to see the protagonist as an innocent on the run and one who is constantly gripped with fear and guilt.

The film goes into the *Drishyam* zone when Wilson starts to outsmart the police, and you root for him because you know he never planned to have the victim's blood on his hands. The movie even reminds you of *Nayattu,* where the traditional hunters get hunted.

The revelations in the story have the necessary shock value but you wish they had unfolded more organically to avoid loopholes. If Devi Prasad Shetty manages to smoothen these rough edges, he can be a solid genre filmmaker.

Thankfully, the racy screenplay of *Case of Kondana* makes up for the flaws; once the premise gets established, the film moves at a breakneck speed. It holds your attention as you are made to believe that something crucial is happening all the time.

It also helps that director Devi Prasad believes in creating a distinctive mood for his thrillers; if *Seetharam Benoy* was filmed in a lush green landscape, *Case of Kondana* is a thriller that unfolds over one night in a city. Gagan Baderia's haunting score and Vishwajith Rao's hand-held cinematography create tension to complement the film's mood.

Case of Kondana may not become a classic, but you don't mind as the pluses outweigh the minuses.

Case of Kondana is currently running in theatres

Nail biting suspense Stills from *Case of Kondana*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

FILM REVIEW

Playing it safe

Vivek MV

Adhyaksha, released in 2014, was an impressive remake of the Tamil rural comedy drama *Varthapadatha Valibar Sangam*. The Kannada adaptation with the Sharan-Chikkanna combination did a fine job of delivering the laughs. A decade later, *Upadhyaksha* is a film that wants to ride on the same template of *Adhyaksha* and provide a launchpad for seasoned comedian Chikkanna to turn hero.

Sharan was on the upward journey of transforming himself into a hero from a comedian when *Adhyaksha* became a success. The film worked thanks to the chemistry of Sharan and Chikkanna. However, in *Upadhyaksha,* directed by Anil Kumar, Chikkanna doesn't have another comedian to lean on and is left to do all the heavy lifting. The result? He succeeds only partially.

The story is set in a village called Gejjepura, where Narayana (Chikkanna) a.k.a Upadhyaksha (meaning vice-president), is now in charge of the Chi. Thu Association, which has only happy-go-lucky members. Adhyaksha (Sharan), the president, is living elsewhere after eloping and marrying the daughter of Shivarudregowda (Ravi Shankar), the village leader.

Upadhyaksha (Kannada)
Director: Anil Kumar
Cast: Chikkanna, Ravi Shankar, Malaika Vasupal, Dharmanna Kadur
Runtime: 153 minutes
Storyline: Narayana, the vice president of Chi Thu Association, always stands in the way of the village leader Shivarudregowda. To make matters more serious, he elopes with the latter's youngest daughter

Upadhyaksha and Shivarudregowda are always at loggerheads, each wanting to stay more relevant than the other . Expectedly, Upadhyaksha falls in love with Shivarudregowda's youngest daughter (Malaika Vasupal) and elopes with her.

Unfortunately, the film fails to go beyond silly gags, and director Anil Kumar's writing settles for low-hanging fruit with plenty of sexual innuendos. The situational humour isn't remarkable, while the typical loud and cringe comedy by Sadhu Kokila continues to find a place in Kannada films.

But if this film is a measure to test Chikkanna's ability to be a mainstream film hero, then the actor gets full points for his dancing skills. There aren't any well-written situations in the movie for the actor to explore his range as a performer, but comedy is right up his alley. It remains to be seen if he can excel as a hero in a more original script that challenges him with a solid character.

Upadhyaksha is unapologetically an old-school rural comedy drama. If you feel the comedy of *Adhyaksha* has aged well and want more of it, *Upadhyaksha* will work for you.

Upadhyaksha is currently running in theatres

CITYBEATS

Three cheers

FEBRUARY 3 AND 4
India Cocktail Week (ICW) will be hosting its fourth edition in Bengaluru. There will be global and home-grown brands from across 50 bars worldwide, 25 bar pop-ups and much more to look forward to, including loads of music and entertainment.
Entry fee is ₹499 upwards. Tickets on Insider. At Jayamahal Palace Hotel.

Clayed in

ON TILL FEBRUARY 2
This pottery workshop is for children and is designed to help them to understand the feel of natural clay, and enjoy hand-building techniques such as pinching, coiling and slab making.
At Lahe Lahe from 5pm to 6pm. Tickets on Townscript, BookMyShow. Call 9886294444 for details.

Back to basics

JANUARY 31
Attend a workshop on The Play Of Human Needs. Led by Ajay Goyal, it will help you will explore the six basic human needs and engage in entertaining games to map your individual needs into this broader framework. The workshop will include activities.
At Atta Galatta, 11am. Tickets available on BookMyShow.

Telangana HC orders status quo over MLC nomination

Marri Ramu
HYDERABAD

Telangana High Court on Tuesday passed an order to maintain status quo over the notification appointing M. Kodandaram and Amir Ali Khan as MLCs under Governor quota till February 8.

A Bench of Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice Anil Kumar Jukanti, after hearing arguments in two interim applications pertaining to two writ petitions filed by Dasoju Sravan Kumar and Kurra Satyanarayana, gave the direction. Mr. Kumar and Satyanarayana filed two writ petitions challenging rejection of their nomination by earlier BRS government as MLCs under Governor quota.

While the two pleas were pending for adjudication, the newly formed Congress government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy nominated M. Kodandaram and Amir Ali Khan as MLCs under Governor quota. A GO Ms no. 12 was issued nominating them as MLCs on January 27.

The petitioners filed interim applications seeking to stay the GO.

Supreme Court senior counsel Aditya Sondhi, presenting his contentions, said the State government's decision to recommend two new persons as MLCs even as the rejection of the earlier ones was pending for adjudication was not correct.

Curbs on liquor sale do not extend to municipal areas: SC

A three-judge Bench headed by CJI D.Y. Chandrachud has recalled a SC order of March 20, 2023; Supreme Court order in 2016 clearly states that the prohibition did not extend to municipal areas

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

> The order dated December 15, 2016 does not prohibit licensed establishments within municipal areas. This clarification shall govern other municipal areas too
> **SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

The Supreme Court has asserted that its December 2016 ban on the sale of liquor within 500 metres of the outer edge of national and State highways will not extend to municipal areas.

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud has recalled a Supreme Court order of March 20, 2023. The March 2023 order had set aside a Madras High Court decision confirming the permission granted by the Puducherry Excise Department to a liquor retailer, represented by senior advocate P.B. Suresh, to shift his shop to ECR Main Road at Ganapathi Chettikulam from Kamaraj Salai in Pillathottam.

The residents' society, Kanagachettikulam Makkal Podhunala Eyakkam, had moved the High Court against the shifting of the liquor shop, saying the establishment was hardly 150 metres from temples, mosques and educational institutions. The High Court dismissed the petition of the residents, who approached the Supreme Court. A Division Bench headed by Justice (now retired) M.R. Shah had ruled in favour of the residents in March 2023.

Arguing the review petition on Monday, Mr. Suresh said the top court had clarified, in a subsequent order on July 11, 2017, that the December 2016 prohibition on the sale of liquor within 500 metres along highways, did not extend to municipal areas.

"The purpose of the directions contained in the order dated December 15, 2016 is to deal with the sale of liquor along and in proximity of highways properly understood... The order does not prohibit licensed establishments within municipal areas... We have considered it appropriate to issue this clarification to set at rest any ambiguity," a three-judge Bench had explained in its 2017 order.

Idukki gang rape case: 3 sentenced to 90 years in jail

The Hindu Bureau
IDUKKI

The Devikulam Fast Track Special (POCSO) Court on Tuesday sentenced three youth to 90 years in prison with a fine of ₹40,000 each for raping a 14-year-old migrant girl at Poopara in Idukki.

Special public prosecutor (SPP) Smiju K. Das said that the youth were sentenced to 90 years of rigorous imprisonment under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and the POCSO Act and may undergo the sentence simultaneously for 25 years.

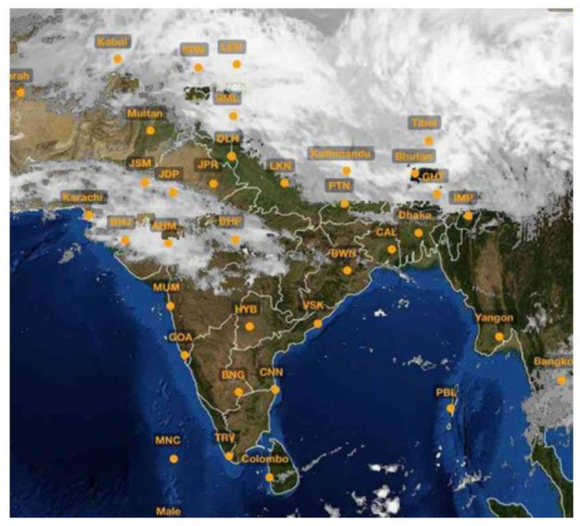
The compensation should be handed over to the family members of the girl and if the accused fail to pay the fine they will undergo another eight months in jail.

Judge P.A. Sirajudeen had delivered the verdict on Monday in which three of the accused persons were found guilty. They are Tamil Nadu residents Sugand, 20, and Sivakumar, 21, and Poopara resident Syam, 21.

The incident occurred on 29, May 2022, when the girl, the daughter of a plantation worker hailing from West Bengal, was raped by a six-member gang, including two minors. The survivor had reached a tea plantation here with her male friend who is a Madhya Pradesh native. They attacked her friend and chased him away, and dragged the girl to a secluded area and raped her.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy rainfall/snowfall likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Thunderstorm with lightning/hailstorm/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, west Rajasthan, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Gangetic West Bengal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	25.6	10.4	Kozhikode	—	34.8	24.0
Ahmedabad	—	30.0	14.7	Kurnool	—	34.1	19.1
Aizawl	—	24.8	7.1	Lucknow	—	23.4	9.2
Allahabad	—	25.3	9.2	Madurai	—	34.7	22.4
Bengaluru	—	30.4	16.3	Mangaluru	—	32.8	21.9
Bhopal	—	25.9	13.0	Mumbai	—	31.5	18.4
Bhubaneswar	—	31.0	16.8	Mysuru	—	30.0	18.0
Chandigarh	—	19.1	7.7	New Delhi	—	21.4	8.7
Chennai	—	30.5	23.3	Patna	—	23.3	9.1
Coimbatore	—	33.8	19.3	Port Blair	25	30.0	23.2
Dehradun	—	21.9	6.8	Puducherry	—	31.4	21.4
Gangtok	5	8.7	6.0	Pune	—	32.6	15.5
Goa	—	33.4	20.6	Raipur	—	29.8	16.2
Guwahati	—	25.8	10.6	Ranchi	—	27.5	11.4
Hubballi	—	34.0	18.0	Shillong	—	14.0	4.9
Hyderabad	—	30.3	17.1	Shimla	—	17.0	5.4
Imphal	—	22.7	2.9	Srinagar	—	9.0	0.8
Jaipur	—	25.1	12.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.3	23.8
Kochi	—	31.0	24.0	Tiruchi	—	34.3	21.0
Kohima	—	15.0	5.0	Vijayawada	—	30.5	19.0
Kolkata	—	28.2	14.8	Visakhapatnam	—	29.5	20.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.13	.12	.45	...173	...115	
Bengaluru	.23	.11	.40	...122	...130	
Chennai	...1	.41	.62	...331	...232	
Delhi	.15	228	106	...404	...390	
Hyderabad	...4	.37	.54	98	...129	
Kolkata	.21	.78	.17	...176	...126	
Lucknow	.14	.70	.98	...347	...334	
Mumbai	.16	.92	.36	...158	...129	
Pune	...8	.48	.57	...118	...120	
Visakhapatnam	.12	.45	.11	...146	...156	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Saharsa, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 421 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Vijayapura, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 39

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Karnataka HC: File complaint before magistrate against manual scavenging

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The complaints against employing or engaging persons for manual scavenging, contrary to the provisions of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, will have to be made before the jurisdictional judicial magistrate and not before the police, said the High Court of Karnataka.

> **'The police cannot receive a report or complaint and register a case'**

"In view of the provision contained under Section 10 of the Act, the police cannot receive a report/complaint and register a case... The complaint is required to be made to the magistrate," the court said.

Justice Shivashankar Amarannavar passed the order while allowing a petition filed by S.S. Bhairi, a 69-year-old medical practitioner from Hubballi.

Quashes FIR

The court quashed a FIR registered against the petitioner under Section 7 of the Act for violating the provision that prohibits directly or indirectly engaging or employing persons for hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks.

However, the Court reserved liberty to the authorities to make a complaint before the jurisdictional magistrate against the petitioner. As per the provisions contained under Section 10 of the Act, it is only upon a "complaint" that a court has to take cognizance of any offence punishable under this Act, the High Court said.

Oppn. blames LDF govt. for fiscal crisis

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Opposition United Democratic Front staged a walkout in the Kerala Assembly on Tuesday, accusing the Left Democratic Front government of doing next to nothing to overcome the "grave financial situation" being faced by the State.

The government has "miserably failed" in improving tax collection, checking wasteful spending and launching economic measures for handling the crisis, the Opposition alleged, participating in a discussion in the House on the fiscal situation.

Responding to an adjournment motion moved by the Opposition, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan agreed to discuss the financial situation by suspending the day's business. Thereafter, Speaker A.N. Shamseer declared that the subject would be discussed for two hours from 1 p.m.

Congress MLA Roji M. John, who moved the motion seeking adjournment, held the 2016-2021 LDF government primarily responsible for the present crisis.

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan, who termed the financial crisis the gravest in Kerala's history, said the UDF cannot accept the LDF narrative that the Union government was solely to blame. Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal had miserably failed in harnessing tax revenues, he alleged.

Tribal rhythm

Graceful moves: Tribal women performing *dhimsa*, a dance form that is performed primarily by the Porja tribe of Andhra Pradesh, during the closing ceremony of 14th All India Police Commando Competition, 2023 in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday. V. RAJU

Cong. high command will decide Lok Sabha candidates: Revanth

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Revanth Reddy

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said that the Congress high command will decide the Lok Sabha candidates.

"The high command has already constituted a committee, headed by Harish Choudary, to finalise the candidates, which will be approved by the Central leadership," he said at a meeting of the Pradesh Election Committee (PEC) held at Gandhi Bhavan on Tuesday evening.

The PEC passed an unanimous resolution authorising the AICC chief to finalise the LS candidates. The Congress will invite applications from aspirants for the LS polls, Mr. Revanth Reddy said, adding that party leaders can apply till March 3.

"LS polls are just 60 days away and already the notification for Rajya Sabha elections are announced. Let us strive to get good results," he said. The government is committed to fulfilling all the promises it had made to the electorate.

HC rejects bail plea of serial murder case accused Jolly

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Tuesday dismissed for the second time the bail petition filed by Jolly Joseph, accused in the Koodathayi serial murder case.

The court observed that the petitioner was not entitled to be released on bail as there was a danger of justice being thwarted and also in view of the seriousness of the allegations, including the murder of six members of a family and the petitioner's attempt to influence witnesses.

The case was investigated in late 2019, involving the mystery of six deaths over a span of 14 years.

P.C. George likely to merge party with BJP

Hiran Unnikrishnan
KOTTAYAM

P.C. George

Ending his protracted break from the political mainstream, P.C. George, the firebrand leader with a knack for colourful demagoguery and a track record of political flip-flops, has opened talks to merge his party, the Kerala Janapaksham (Secular) [KJ(S)], with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Mr. George, a seven-time member of the Kerala Assembly and United Democratic Front (UDF) Chief Whip in the Oommen Chandy government, confirmed that his party was in discussions with the BJP's national leadership.

Mr. George's relationship with the UDF ended in 2015 following disputes with Kerala Congress (M) leader K.M. Mani. However, he returned to the Assembly in 2016 as an Independent MLA from the Poonjar constituency.

Mr. George's relationship with the first Pinarayi Vijayan government soured after he purportedly felt cold-shouldered by the ruling front.

Creativity will be a key element in Karnataka's new education policy, says Sudhakar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka would consider creativity as an important element to be incorporated in the State's forthcoming education policy in order to support its mandate to lead the growth of the Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming & Comics and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR) sector for the country, said M.C. Sudhakar, Minister for Higher Education here on Tuesday.

"We are formulating a new education policy. We will create a provision to inculcate creativity in students as an important skill in this new policy,'' said the Minister while participating in a panel discussion on "Future of education in AVGC" at the fifth edition of Karnataka's AVGC-XR annual event GAFX 2024.

M.C. Sudhakar, Minister for Higher Education, addressing the GAFX 2024 in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Minister was responding to a special request made by Ashish Kulkarni, Chairman of FICCI AVGC Forum and Founder of Punnaryug Artvision to Karnataka, to include AVGC-related topics in its school curriculum from class 1 itself as catching the imagination of children right from a young age was essential for creating a healthy pipeline of talent in the future.

Dr. Sudhakar recalled growing up enjoying cartoons, including Phantom.

"I still remember one of the first 3D cartoons, Chota Chetan. The dual roles played by the actor looked so artificial then, but today, such characters look 100% realistic and natural. Things really have changed, and portrayal and presentation with the help of visual effects has given a new dimension to AVGC."

Sharath Bache Gowda, Chairman, KEONICS, said the AVGC sector could reach the projected $26 billion in revenues by 2030 only if the country developed a good crop of talent in content creation, sculpting, painting and other creative arts needed for the industry.

"The government has to do a lot of catching up to help this industry grow. We are with you to support the growth of this industry.

"We need to create an environment where we tell stories and narrate stories for the world,'' he said.

He also reiterated that the state has plans to create an ecosystem for developing AVGC talent in tier 2 and 3 cities.

Support entrepreneurs

Karnataka Information Technology Venture Capital Fund (KITVEN) unveiled a dedicated Venture Capital fund of ₹20 crore to support the AVGC sector at GAFX 2024.

P.V. Harikrishnan, CEO, KITVEN Fund, said that this pioneering initiative, under the Department of IT, BT & ST, was designed to invest in companies within the State contributing to Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics.

Economic encomium

A glowing 10-year report card must not stoke complacency

Ahead of the Interim Budget for 2024-25 on Thursday, the Finance Ministry's 10-year review of the economy with some forward outlook, serves as a proxy to the annual Economic Survey. The review signals GDP will grow close to 7% in 2024-25, with scope to go 'well above' 7% by 2030. From about $3.7 trillion this year, India's economy will expand to $5 trillion in three years, making it the world's third largest, and could hit the $7 trillion dollar mark by 2030, it reckons. Splicing India's growth story into two phases – 1950-2014, and a 'decade of transformative growth' since 2014 – the review stresses that the state of the economy was 'far from encouraging' when Prime Minister Narendra Modi 'assumed power'. Growth was hobbled by structural constraints such as tardy decision-making, ill-targeted subsidies and a large informal sector, while inflation was unpalatably high. Post-2014 reforms have restored the economy's ability to grow healthily with "longer and stronger" economic and financial cycles, and made India the fastest growing G-20 nation, it argues. The review asserts that India's 7% growth when the world is growing 2%, is 'qualitatively superior' to 8%-9% achieved when the global economy grows 4%, perhaps, hinting at a few years of the UPA era. This is debatable as India's economy is generally delinked from the world with domestic activity driving growth more than exports.

Now that the twin-balance sheet problem inherited from the UPA days has turned into an 'advantage', as the review stresses, it must translate into a wider private investment revival. That would hinge on a broad-based consumption rebound rather than the K-shaped recovery the government vehemently dismisses. Four years of 7%-plus growth, post-pandemic, would be commendable indeed. However, India needs to grow faster to create jobs at the scale its youth need and ensure that a rising growth tide lifts most boats, if not all. The review expects an 'all-inclusive welfare approach' to help enlarge the consumption base by expanding the middle class. But those dependent on handouts, such as the 800 million that need free food by the Centre's reckoning, must progressively shrink for growth to be meaningful and equitable. The report rightly mentions reforms in learning outcomes, health, easier compliances for smaller firms, as priorities, with some critical changes at the 'sub-national government' level to accelerate growth. It is also essential that flaws in reforms such as GST are fixed and some of the blunt policy tools deployed, for instance, import licences and price controls on deregulated products, that send convoluted signals about India's 'open market with predictable policies' pitch, are reconsidered.

Vetting for vendetta

Mechanism to scan cases for political motive cannot address issue of cover-up

The Supreme Court's suggestion for a mechanism to eliminate the perception of vendetta behind the use of investigative agencies against political opponents is sound in principle, but may not address all aspects of the problem. A case under formal investigation may be scrutinised for its legal tenability or political motive, but such a mechanism can do nothing about offences and allegations that are covered up for political reasons. During a recent hearing on a bribery case against an Enforcement Directorate (ED) officer in Tamil Nadu, the ED sought the transfer of the probe to the CBI. It also charged that the State police was not sharing details of FIRs it had registered on complaints against Ministers, officials and others in instances of corruption and illegal mining. The ED, presumably, wants to probe the money-laundering aspects of these offences, whereas the State government believes these details will be used to target its ministers and officials as the State is run by a party opposed to the ruling BJP at the Centre. The Bench's idea that an independent, pan-India mechanism to vet such cases appears reasonable. However, much of the criticism of the use of central agencies against political adversaries of the BJP stems from the view that similar allegations against its party members and allies across the country are seldom investigated.

Corruption allegations abound in several States against key political figures seen as friendly to the Centre, but the Opposition parties believe the CBI, ED and Income-Tax Department are hardly active there. The Bench is right in observing that offenders should not be spared only because they claimed to be victims of vendetta. Its remarks disapproving of retaliatory arrests are also salutary. However, despite the Solicitor-General's argument that the courts could intervene in the case of vindictive action, it has to be noted that the ED's power to summon and arrest anyone, and the difficulty in obtaining bail in money-laundering cases, renders the Union government quite invincible if it chose persecution in the name of prosecution. An unsavoury instance of how far politics over the use of central agencies can sully institutions is the recent episode of a Calcutta High Court judge ordering a CBI probe into charges against the ruling party in West Bengal, and a Division Bench staying the order. The single judge chose to ignore the Bench's order, accusing its presiding judge of political motive. In a welcome move, the Supreme Court formed a Bench of its senior-most judges and transferred the whole case file to itself for disposal. The perception of vendetta can only be removed if all agencies chose independence over subservience.

A dark message to Delhi from Kangla Fort

Kham Khan Suan Hausing

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In what could have been an anti-climax to a melodramatic Shumang Leela act (a traditional form of theatre in Manipur), 38 Meitei legislators took a six-point public oath-taking at the Kangla Fort, Imphal, on January 24. Unlike the four-generic resolutions passed by the State Assembly, and reportedly endorsed by 34-odd State legislators (this included a Meitei Pangal and five Nagas) three days earlier, the six-points oath (later endorsed by the Chief Minister of Manipur, N. Biren Singh) made explicit its communal overtones by castigating the 'Kuki' for unilaterally fomenting violence since May 3.

Everything other than disarmament

The six-points oath called upon the Centre to do the following: abrogate the tripartite Suspension of Agreement (SoO) that it signed with the State and Kuki-Zomi-Hmar militants since 2008; implement the National Register of Citizens but using 1951 as the base year; construct a border-fence across the India-Myanmar border; replace the Assam Rifles with other central paramilitary forces; delete 'Kuki' from the Scheduled Tribe list, and relocate 'Kuki refugees' in Manipur to Mizoram.

If these were implemented, they would not only further expose the vulnerability of the Kuki-Zomi-Hmar groups but would also effectively erase their long-standing protective discrimination benefits.

In hindsight, had the above points been played as themes of a Shumang Leela act to showcase what could have transpired in the real world, patrons of Shumang Leela would have been sorely disappointed by the inversion of its conventional themes, wherein brotherhood, tolerance and justice, among others, are sacrificed at the altar of collective self-love and perceived sense of insecurity.

Clearly, the legislators lost Tagore's dream of 'clear stream of reason' and a fearless mind which should have animated their public action even as they allowed themselves to be consumed by the burning passion to protect the interests of the 'Sanamahi' and Meitei 'community'. That this reflection and reasoned public action were missing from the legislators' public action became apparent as the six-points oath failed to mention 'disarmament', which was one of the four resolutions passed earlier by the Assembly. This is glaring given that almost half of the 6,000 automatic rifles and over five lakh rounds of live ammunitions from various police armouries that were handed over to ragtag mobs are reportedly still with the Arambai Tenggol, the armed militia under whose diktat and supervision this oath-taking event was held.

This, and the fact that much of the arms and ammunition continue to be in the hands of armed militants across the divide, continue to be a key structural cause of this violence.

> The Indian state needs to be aware of the implications of the recent oath-taking event by 38 Meitei legislators in Imphal, under the gaze of a militia group

An abandonment of constitutional duty

Given the extensive reports of Arambais being involved in violent attacks against several Kuki-Zomi-Hmar villages, the legislators' decision to publicly partake in the Arambais agenda only reinforces the partisan image and the role of the Meitei legislators in Manipur's violence. There may have been applause following the Arambai Tenggol's triumphant shout of 'Manipur *na yai phare* (Manipur has done well') in Kangla as they retreated to their camps in motor cavalcades after this event, but far from securing the interests of the Meiteis and protecting Manipur's territorial integrity, there are signs of a sense of insecurity. If one is to go by the hostile responses on social media, this event has also sharpened the emotional, demographic and territorial divide between the Kuki-Zomi-Hmar and Meitei.

The immediate fallout of this was evident during the event as three legislators, who included Meghachandra, the President of Congress Pradesh Committee, were physically assaulted by the Arambais for attributing the violence to misrule by the Bharatiya Janata Party in the State. The muzzling of dissent and violent intolerance stems from this. That the Arambai Tenggol brooks no dissent and might unleash terror was also evident when its cadres vandalised the residences of human rights activist Babloo Loitangbam and a retired police official, Thounaojam Brinda, when they implicated the Arambai Tenggol for its role in this cycle of violence.

By giving in to the diktat of the Arambai Tenggol and Korounganba Khuman, its commander-in-chief (out of fear of being labelled 'enemy' and 'traitor' of the Meitei 'community'), the Meitei legislators have abandoned their primary constitutional duty and oath to protect India's Constitution.

This dramatic event is also remarkable for its symbolic and iterative significance. That an armed militia chose Kangla Fort as the site for public oath-taking demonstrates its determination to not only revive the glorious past of *Kangleipak* (the local name for Meitei Kingdom) from its symbolic and traditional seat of power, but also project this as a fulcrum to revive Meitei indigenous tradition, culture, and religion (*Sanamahi*). The event is also significant for another reason – that elected representatives of a democratic state, whose primary oath of allegiance is to the Indian Constitution, are very pliable and can be blackmailed under duress to capitulate to the partisan communal agenda of an unelected, and armed militant group. That elected legislators could be overshadowed in a democratic and constitutional state is disturbing as it strikes at the very root of the legitimacy of the Indian state.

Dangers of a radical agenda

The fact that this event was organised to convey a strong political message to New Delhi is clear as it happened within days of backroom attempts by a three-member team of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (headed by A.K. Mishra, a retired police officer and an interlocutor with Kuki-Zomi-Hmar SoO groups in Manipur), to persuade the Arambai Tenggol to either cancel or postpone the event. In its ambition to upstage the 38-odd Meitei legislators (plus the Chief Minister who later signed the pledge) as the bearers of democratic legitimacy, the Arambai Tenggol and this oath reinforced the communal and partisan agenda/interest of large segments of Meitei non-state actors and their legislators in targeting the 'Kuki' as the problematic 'other'.

Although the Arambai Tenggol is largely seen as a private militia (started and sustained under the patronage of Leisemba Sanajaoba, the titular king of Manipur, and the powers-that-be), it also represents a calibrated organisational attempt to revive Meitei indigenous culture, tradition and religion (*Sanamahi*). Much like the radicalisation of youths in Punjab in the 1980s under Bhindranwale's Damdami Taksal, the Arambai Tenggol has succeeded in reorienting many unemployed Meitei youth to the cause of a sovereign Kangleipak under the veneer of reviving Meitei's fast-vanishing indigenous religion, traditions and cultures such as traditional martial arts that focus on the use of sword, and a horse-mount dart as a weapon. In doing so, the Arambai Tenggol has galvanised popular interest and support in quick time. However, given that it operates in an insurgent space where the 'radical' agenda and interest of a motley of non-state actors including armed groups which espouse a sovereign Kangleipak intersect and often either coalesce or reinforce one another, the Arambai Tenggol is susceptible to manipulation and control by powerful social forces and political actors.

It is precisely here that one should be wary of the Janus-faced Arambai Tenggol. Allowing the mighty Indian state to capitulate to this armed militia, or other powerful social forces, just because it is amenable to cultural and nationalist appropriation by some vested parties in their electoral pursuit cannot be used as a ruse to denude what the eminent sociologist Michael Mann in a different context calls the 'infrastructural power' of the state – that is, the autonomous power to regulate state-society relations. Otherwise, this public event could turn out to be India's Bhindranwale moment again.

The views expressed are personal

A blurred mapping of internal female migration

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Internal migration is a crucial form of physical and social transaction in India. The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), which collects data on employment and unemployment indicators in the country, has estimated it to be 27% from June 2020 to 2021. Normative literature (Rajan *et al.*, 2020; Jesline *et al.*, 2021) usually documents it as a male-dominated narrative. However, women, especially of working age, comprise a greater share of the migrant pool but there is little dialogue surrounding them. This is a concern given India's falling Female Labour Force Participation Rate (FLFPR). It also raises the question of whether women face employment barriers due to post-migration conditions.

National surveys, inaccurate picture

National surveys such as the PLFS capture information about female migrants but often convey an inaccurate picture. For instance, surveys only ask the respondents regarding their primary reason for migration. PLFS data suggest that the leading reason for migration among women is marriage (81%), followed by migration of family members (10%), employment (2.42%), and migration for education opportunities (0.48%). There is no provision to know the secondary reasons/motivations such as climate shocks and food insecurity, which can be a crucial driver of migration for women.

In the same vein, data from these surveys regarding migrant women's labour force participation can be misinforming. According to the PLFS, approximately three quarters of migrant women are unemployed, approximately 14% of migrant women are in self and wage-employed jobs and approximately 12% are in casual labour. This round of data collection was during the COVID-19 pandemic, which might explain the low numbers, but does not adequately underscore the problem of underreporting of their employment status. Anecdotal evidence and findings from the respective works of researchers Sonalde Desai and Ashwini Deshpande suggest that it is not uncommon for migrant women to engage in casual employment, indicating the underestimation of the number of migrant women involved in the various sectors that might be categorised as causal (or even informal) such as agriculture, construction, and domestic help.

> Women, especially of working age, comprise a greater share of India's migrant pool but there is little dialogue and flawed data on this important issue

Second, definitional issues and women's own beliefs also lead to an underreporting of employment of migrant women. According to the definition of employment used by national surveys, only those with some form of verbal or written contract with their employer are considered part of the labour force. Consequently, women are largely classified as unemployed.

However, what is often overlooked is that women choose forms of employment that allow them to handle their domestic duties while contributing to the household's production or finances. Thus, working as unpaid family workers, in household enterprises, or being self-employed is common amongst them (S. Rukmini, 2023). But they may view that as an extension of their domestic commitment instead of a form of employment which leads to them misreporting their employment status.

Human and social capital

Notwithstanding these arguments, if indeed entry to the formal labour force is challenging, one important factor restricting their entry into the labour force could be the need for more human and social capital. In the PLFS data, 85% of the women have less than 10 years of education, which can create problems. While there is no significant difference in the educational levels of migrant and non-migrant women, migrant women are proportionally less employed than the non-migrant women. Coupled with the lack of social networks, especially after they migrate, these factors can significantly hinder their employment chances.

Such barriers might also explain the dismal recovery of women's labour activity after the pandemic. A study by Yale University on this issue observed that after the COVID-19-induced lockdown, 55% of women never returned to their places of employment, and those who did so, earned only 56% of their pre-pandemic income levels.

Regardless of the sparse number of migrant women formally counted in the labour force, female migration for labour/employment increased by 101% between 2001 and 2011. However, they remain largely invisible, facing significant hurdles and marginalisation. Consequently, this results in unaddressed struggles and a lack of targeted policies. From a political standpoint, women migrants are not a considerable vote bank, and, therefore, their needs are not addressed. Although recent polls would disagree, political parties do not campaign to gain migrant women's votes. This has several detrimental outcomes, such as a lack of good data on female migrants and treating migrant men and women as the same. This engenders policy-making, which is poorly informed about the needs, motivations, and conditions of female migrants. Policies such as One Nation One ration card, e-Shram, and affordable rental housing complexes are examples of this as they are mainly targeted towards the male migrant population.

Steps to take

To remedy this, several steps should be taken. National surveys should compile more information regarding their socio-economic conditions post-migration as very little is known about it. For instance, the PLFS indicates that a minute percentage (approximately 7%) have access to social security benefits; there is no data for the rest of the populace. There is also a lack of time-use data (Nadal *et al.*, 2020; Charmes, 2019) for migrants, as India has not made that the norm yet. Time-use data would significantly help advance existing knowledge regarding unemployed female migrants. On a broader scale, a change in narrative is required, starting with an increased collection of female-specific data. It will illustrate the largely anecdotal problem and bring awareness about the plight of these women to encourage progressive policymaking.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Party hopping

It does not augur well for the health of democracy in India if we have maverick politicians like Nitish Kumar who change loyalties at the drop of a hat.

The anti-defection law may have checked retail horse trading perhaps, but wholesale horse trading continues unabated. With the biggest show of all, *viz.*, the general election due in a few months, one has to wait and watch how many more such turnarounds are in store for the general public (Inside pages, January 30).

Sharada Sivaram,
Ernakulam, Kerala

The world of Test cricket

The aggressive brand of cricket, which the English coach Brendon McCullum has espoused, seems to be working well for England ('Sport' page, January 30). Test cricket purists must be shaking their heads in disbelief when they see reverse sweeps and pre-determined scoops. Bazball has definitely created a buzz and shown that an unconventional approach can succeed in Test matches in India. India needs to come up with a strategy to counter this unconventional approach.

Thomas Palocaren,
Vellore, Tamil Nadu

The world of cricket witnessed two of the best Tests, won by visiting countries. In this batsmen's era, the wins on account of bowling performances are a boost to Test cricket.

P. Ramu Selvam,
Palani, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu

The sensational win by the West Indies has taken the cricketing world by storm. Beyond the records, the West Indies victory was a celebration of the spirit of the game. It showcased the power of belief, teamwork and overcoming invincible odds.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Pulling Sri Lanka out of the abyss

On January 9, 2024, the United National Party (UNP) proposed incumbent Ranil Wickremesinghe as the national presidential candidate for the elections. This move may garner support from some political parties. In July 2022, six-time Prime Minister Wickremasinghe was chosen for his economic credentials by a parliamentary majority to replace Gotabaya Rajapaksa who resigned following mass protests over economic mismanagement and rent-seeking.

In April 2022, Sri Lanka became the first Asian country in the 21st century to pre-emptively default on debt, which amounted to over $50 billion. A devastating economic crisis followed. The GDP contracted by 7.8%, year on year inflation escalated to 69.8% in September 2022, the Sri Lankan rupee depreciated by 44.8% against the U.S. dollar, and usable foreign reserves fell to two weeks of imports creating shortages of medicine, food, and fuel.

Ganeshan Wignaraja

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Stabilisation policies

Mr. Wickremesinghe's government, with members of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) led by Mahinda Rajapaksa, implemented an orthodox set of stabilisation policies. These included raising interest rates to control inflation, removing fuel subsidies, increasing taxes, passing a law to improve the independence of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka and initiating privatisation of state-owned enterprises. The government also sought Indian aid, intensified negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on an Extended Fund Facility (EFF) and also foreign debt restructuring talks with private bondholders and bilateral creditors.

In March 2023, the IMF Board approved a EFF worth $2.9 billion over 48 months, emphasising fiscal and governance reforms. The first review by the IMF Board in December 2023 rated Sri Lanka's performance as "satisfactory" meaning total IMF disbursement will be $670 million. The EFF unlocked additional funding from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank for budget support, social protection, financial sector development, and infrastructure development.

Progress is visible after 18 months of stabilisation policies. Inflation fell to 4% in December 2023 but could rise with the increase in Value Added Tax from 15% to 18% in January 2024. The Sri Lankan rupee appreciated by 12.1% against the U.S. dollar in 2023. Foreign exchange liquidity pressures eased. More import capacity means shortages of essentials and waiting lines have disappeared. The IMF projects a return to growth of 1.8% in 2024 compared with -3.6% in 2023.

Furthermore, foreign direct investment in infrastructure, due to Sri Lanka's strategic location in the Indian Ocean, may also be picking up. A joint venture project between India's Adani Group and Sri Lanka's John Keells Holdings seeks to develop the $700 million West Container Terminal at Colombo Port. The U.S. Development Finance Corporation has committed $553 million. This will expand the capacity of the port and improve transhipment trade with a growing Indian economy.

In a geopolitical twist, China's Sinopec Group, which will also manage 200 fuel filling stations in Sri Lanka, has committed $4.5 billion to an oil refinery in the controversial, low-profit Hambantota Port. Foreign exchange constraints and an inefficient state-owned Ceylon Petroleum Corporation led to fuel shortages and hardships for the Sri Lankans during the crisis. FDI by China's Sinopec in petroleum refining and distribution may help improve Sri Lanka's energy security provided the energy market is open to all investors and a strong competition policy is adopted. If not, Sri Lanka could be vulnerable to problems of a private monopoly under Sinopec with higher fuel prices and variable fuel supply.

Under Ranil Wickremasinghe, economic progress is visible after 18 months of stabilisation policies

Risks to Sri Lanka's outlook

Sri Lanka needs sustained economic growth of 5-6% in the medium term to escape from indebtedness. But its outlook is vulnerable to external and internal risks. The first is geopolitical competition between the U.S. and China. For instance, an intensified U.S.-China trade war following the possible victory of Donald Trump in the U.S. presidential elections could be devastating for inward FDI and trade in Sri Lanka.

The second is debt restructuring. In November 2023, Sri Lanka concluded an initial agreement with key bilateral creditors, including India and the Paris Club, to restructure $5.9 billion in external debt. This was important for reducing interest payments and unlocking IMF financing in 2024. This deal followed China's separate debt restructuring agreement with Sri Lanka. These agreements are on similar terms, extending deadlines and lowering interest rates. But ominously, private bondholders, who held about 40% of external debt (end 2022), are concerned about the extent of the 'haircut' on debt they could face. They say there has been little engagement with them due to the focus on talks with official creditors.

Third, political risks could derail the EFF and growth beyond 2024 – presidential elections are due in September and general elections in 2025. A doubling of poverty to 25% of the population since the default, and growing dissatisfaction with the UNP and SLPP, appears to be leading to support for the left-wing populist National People's Power. And Sajith Premadasa, the leader of the opposition, who is the head of the centre-right Samaji Jana Balwegaya, says he wants to renegotiate the IMF agreement.

Mr. Wickremasinghe deserves credit for pulling Sri Lanka back from the abyss. Only time will tell whether he can win the election.

Gruha Lakshmi is not a freebie

It signifies a redistribution of resources by the government to a marginalised section

STATE OF PLAY

Gourishankar S. Hiremath & K.S. Harikrishnan

The introduction of the Gruha Lakshmi scheme by the Karnataka government has reignited the policy debate about welfare programmes for the economically disadvantaged and fiscal prudence. The scheme guarantees a direct monthly cash transfer of ₹2,000 to women who are the heads of below poverty line households in Karnataka. About 1.36 crore beneficiaries are registered. This means that the annual outlay of the scheme is more than ₹32,000 crore.

Mainstream economics does not recognise activities primarily carried out by women at home as economic activities. Unpaid work encompasses domestic chores such as cooking and washing, while care work involves caring for the elderly and children. The participation of women in remunerative economic activity is abysmally low, while their burden of unpaid work is substantially higher than men. According to the Time Use survey conducted by the National Statistical Office, 57.3% of male respondents were involved in employment and related activities compared to 18.4% of women. In contrast, 81.2% of women bore the burden of unpaid domestic services for household members compared to 26.1% of men.

Further, the burden of unpaid and care work is disproportionately higher for economically poor women who are also engaged in wage work, as they lack the resources to outsource care activities. Thus, they are trapped in a cycle of poverty. The Gruha Lakshmi scheme represents a

crucial step in recognising the value of unpaid work. As urbanisation grows and the population ages, the burden of elderly care is expected to increase, especially for impoverished families. Income support from the state can alleviate the strain on such families. In this context, monetary support to women cannot be seen as a 'freebie'; it is an entitlement for the care work that women do, especially women who face multidimensional and time poverty.

In a patriarchal economic system, women are often paid low wages, which they reluctantly accept due to their limited bargaining power. Unconditional cash support not only helps women decontrol their labour power from the system to an extent, but possibly provides some cushion to resist accepting reservation wages by enhancing their bargaining power.

Empirical evidence supports cash transfers to households in stimulating aggregate demand and putting the economy back on a growth trajectory rather than providing sops and bailout packages to the corporate sector to revive it. For instance, according to a study by IFPRI-Indian Council for Agricultural Research, PM-KISAN, a direct benefit transfer scheme of the Union government, enabled farmers to meet expenses other than agriculture and had a multiplier effect. Direct support measures, including cash transfers to households by the Union government during the COVID-19 pandemic, led to a swift V-shaped recovery of the economy. The Gruha Lakshmi scheme is also poised to bolster aggregate demand given its target group's relatively high marginal propensity to consume. Consumption improves quality of life and also boosts economic activities.

The scheme signifies a redistribution of resources by the government to a marginalised section of society, recognising unpaid work. Nonetheless, ensuring that resources to finance the scheme are augmented from direct taxes, such as levies on high-value property and capital transactions and excise taxes on premium liquor, is crucial. Prudent administrative measures to trim unnecessary expenditures can provide additional resources to ensure timely and uninterrupted cash transfers. Therefore, a transparent and well-thought-out road map for resource augmentation is indispensable. While fiscal prudence is necessary, it must not come at the expense of the welfare of the marginalised.

It is naïve to consider Gruha Lakshmi as a panacea for gender inequality. There is a need to universalise such support to women in recognition of their unpaid and care work. A comprehensive institutional framework at the national and sub-national levels and cooperative federalism are indispensable to address gender inequality in the economy and ensure redistribution.

Gourishankar S. Hiremath teaches economics and K.S. Harikrishnan is a UGC Senior Research Fellow at the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. Views are personal

Most teens use social media, but lack skills to protect themselves

While more than 90% use social media, only about 50% know how to block their profile or make their account private

DATA POINT

Rebecca Rose Varghese & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

Among Indian teenagers in rural areas who can't even read a paragraph of text, over 30% can still browse the Internet and close to 50% can find a video on YouTube, says the latest Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) Rural. The report provides several such insights into the digital prowess of high school and college students in India.

In the ASER survey, students in the 14-18 age group were asked to read a paragraph. Those who could read the words but not the sentences were said to belong to the 'word level'. Those who could read the paragraph but not a bunch of paragraphs were categorised as belonging to 'Grade 1 level'. Those who could read many paragraphs were said to belong to 'Grade 2 level'. The survey was conducted in 28 districts from September to November, 2023.

Chart 1 shows the share of students aged 14-18 with different leading levels who could do digital tasks on a smartphone. Among those at the 'word level', more than 30% managed to find a YouTube video, browse information on the web, and set an alarm on their smartphone. Among those belonging to 'Grade 1 level', more than 55% could do all these tasks. Interestingly, most students, across reading levels, found it challenging to find travel time on Google Maps.

These conclusions were made for all the 28 districts put together. If the data are analysed at the district level, there are wide variations. For instance, more than 95% of teenagers in the rural parts of Ernakulam in Kerala were able to set an alarm on their smartphone, while less than 50% in Cooch Behar in West Bengal and Gariaband in Chhattisgarh knew how to do this. The India average was 66.4% **(Chart 2A).**

There were wide variations among those who could browse information too: while 93% in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag could do this, less than 50% could do so in Odisha's Sambalpur and Meghalaya's East Khasi Hills **(Chart 2B).**

In Nagaland's Kohima district, only 12.5% teenagers knew how to use Google Maps while more than 55% in Punjab's S.A.S. Nagar could do this **(Chart 2C)**.

Notably, variations among districts were the narrowest when it came to accessing YouTube: with close to 70% or more teenagers in every district managing to do this **(Chart 2D).**

The data show that digital literacy has penetrated deep into many rural areas but a few areas are still catching up. However, worryingly, many teenagers have still not learned to protect themselves from the dangers of the online world. While more than 90% of them from across districts used social media during the survey week, only 52.3% knew how to block a profile and only 47.8% knew how to make their account private.

There were wide variations in these skills too. Just 33% in Tripura knew how to block a profile **(Chart 2E)** and less than 30% in Jharkhand's East Singhbhum knew how to make their profile private **(Chart 2F).** A bigger concern is that the share of girls who knew these skills was much lower compared to the share of boys in many districts despite the fact that girls form a majority of the victims of online abuse.

Table 3 shows the share of teenagers who could block/report a profile and make their profile private, across genders, in select districts where the variation was noticeable. Only 46% girls in the 17-18 age group in Bihar's Muzaffarpur knew how to block a profile, whereas over 73% boys knew how to do this. Only 57% girls in Rajasthan's Bhilwara knew how to make their profile private compared to 80% of the boys.

Online and unprotected

The charts are based on data collated from the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) Rural 2023. The survey was conducted in 28 districts last September-November

Chart 1: The chart shows the share of students aged 14-18 who could do digital tasks on a smartphone, across reading levels (in %)

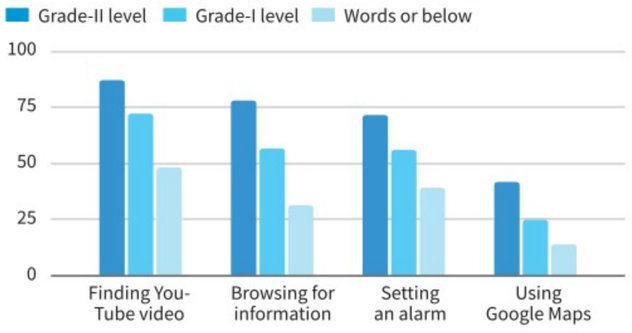

Table 3: The table shows the share of teenagers who could block/report a profile and make their profile private, across genders, in select districts where the variation was noticeable

State: District	Gender of students under the age group 17-18	Share who could block/ report a social media profile	Share who could make a social media profile private
Bihar: Muzaffarpur	Male	73.6	70.1
	Female	46.4	39
Chhattisgarh: Gariaband	Male	60.3	48
	Female	49.6	31.3
Jharkhand: East Singhbhum	Male	59.4	52
	Female	42.8	28.7
Rajasthan: Bhilwara	Male	80.6	80.1
	Female	63.1	57.3
Tamil Nadu: Perambalur	Male	73.8	69.9
	Female	49.5	47.1
Uttar Pradesh: Hathras	Male	75.7	60
	Female	54.8	41.9

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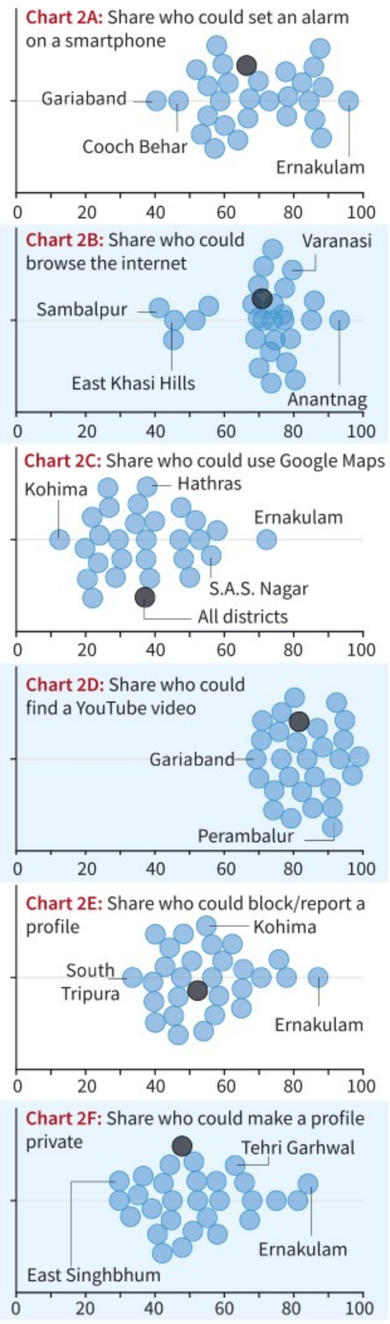
Chart 2: The charts show district-wise digital access and usage among youth in the 14-18 age group



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JANUARY 31, 1974

Rupee Accord: Moynihan sure of U.S. Congress approval

Washington, Jan 30: The U.S. Ambassador to India, Dr. D.P. Moynihan, is confident that the Indo-U.S. rupee agreement initialled in Delhi last December, would win the approval of the Congressional Committees now considering it, even though two Congressmen, who are traditional foes of all forms of aid, told the House Sub Committee on South Asia before which the U.S. envoy testified yesterday that they would oppose the "give away" programme, which would in effect write off the bulk of the U.S. rupee balances in India.

One of the critics of the Indo-U.S. deal asked, "What has India ever done for us, except show enmity? Didn't Mrs. Gandhi tell us to get the hell out of there?" Another gave notice of a "sense of Congress" resolution which would voice disapproval of the rupee accord.

Congressional sources, however, doubted whether such a resolution would gain the approval of the House even though only last week the lower House had killed a Bill which would have allocated $1.5 billions to the International Developmental Association. These sources also said that if such a resolution is adopted, it would have no binding effect on the agreement already entered into by the Governments of the two countries, though the ensuing confrontation between Congress and the Executive could create an embarrassing situation.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JANUARY 31, 1924

France and Rumania

Paris, Jan. 30: A long and authoritative statement issued here now makes it clear that Rumania has finally renounced her intention of asking the French Government for a loan of hundred million francs. It is explained that inevitable delay in the French Parliament's voting loans compels Rumania to seek other means of tiding over her difficulties and most of her orders for war material have been given to Rumanian industries. This will be advantageous to both Rumania and France, to the former on account of her depreciated exchange and to the latter because it gives her an opportunity to practice another economy at the moment she is endeavouring to find means of balancing her budget. It is emphasised that France-Rumanian elections are in no way affected.

From Page One

'Missing' CM Soren shows up in Ranchi

"We are ready for what may come... The BJP is abusing Central agencies to destabilise a democratically elected government but we will not allow them to succeed in their mission," Transport Minister and senior JMM leader Champai Soren said.

Health Minister Banna Gupta said any decision in the current scenario will be taken according to the circumstances. "We will again meet tomorrow at the CM House to express solidarity."

On the speculation that Ms. Soren might replace her husband as the Chief Minister, the legislators said no such discussion was held in the meeting.

Security was beefed up at his Ranchi residence where he held meetings with his alliance partners. Leaders of the Congress, the RJD, and the Nationalist Congress Party, all members of the ruling coalition also held a meeting at the State Circuit House. Later in the evening, legislators from Mr. Soren's Jharkhand Mukti Morcha met at his residence.

The ED has arrested 14 people in the case so far. The agency is investigating charges that a 7.16 acre parcel of land near Ranchi was acquired through the proceeds of crime involving the illegal sale of land belonging to the defence forces. Mr. Soren, however, has dismissed the allegations as "politically motivated", saying that the details of his assets are public.

(With inputs from Devesh K. Pandey and PTI)

14 get death penalty for BJP man's murder

Observing that the murder fell under the category of the rarest of rare cases, Judge Sreedevi V.G. directed that the 14 convicts – Naisam, Ajmal, Anoop, Mohammed Aslam, Abdul Kalam alias Salam, Abdul Kalam, Saffaruddin, Manshad, Jaseeb Raja, Sameer, Nazir, Zakir Hussain, Shaji Poovathungal, and Shernas Ashraf – be hanged by the neck till their death. The court also imposed a ₹1 lakh fine on all of them.

Though the court has found Navas, the tenth accused, guilty of the offences charged against him, it did not pronounce his sentence as he is undergoing medical treatment at a hospital. The court will award him punishment at a later date.

All 15 accused in the case were found guilty by the court on January 20, under Section 302 (murder) and various other provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Special Public Prosecutor Prathap G. Padickkal said that the accused had been found guilty on a total of 15 counts. Besides the death penalty, accused numbers one to eight, who took part in the actual killing, have also been sentenced to imprisonment for life and to undergo rigorous imprisonment for seven years.

Imran sentenced to 10 years in prison

Mr. Sharif was only able to get a bailout from the International Monetary Fund by agreeing to a substantial increase in tariffs on gas and electricity that led to alarming price hikes on everyday goods and made his party unpopular.

On Tuesday, Mr. Khan was convicted in what is popularly known as the cipher case, in which he was accused of exposing state secrets by waving a confidential document at a rally. The document has not been made public but is believed to be diplomatic correspondence between the Pakistani Ambassador to Washington and the Foreign Ministry in Islamabad. Mr. Khan claimed the document was proof he was being threatened and that his ouster was a U.S. conspiracy, allegedly executed by the military and the government in Pakistan. American and Pakistani officials have denied the claim.

A special court at the prison in the garrison city of Rawalpindi where Mr. Khan is being held announced the verdict, according to Zulfiqar Bukhari, chief spokesperson for Mr. Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party.

Man killed, one injured in gunfight in Manipur

Press Trust of India
IMPHAL

At least one village volunteer was killed and another injured after their camp came under attack from unidentified gunmen in Kangpokpi district of Manipur on Tuesday, the police said.

The incident took place at the camp situated near Kadangband village in the Lamshang area in adjoining Imphal West district.

"After the unknown gunmen launched the attack, the village volunteers retaliated, resulting in a gunfight in which one village volunteer was killed and another was injured.

"Following the retaliation, the attackers retreated, regrouped and attacked again. The gunfight is under way," a police officer said. After the eruption of the gun battle, several women and children from Kadangband and neighbouring Koutruk village fled to safer areas, he said. Additional security personnel have been sent to the area to bring the situation under control, the officer said. The injured has been taken to the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences in Imphal.

3 CRPF personnel killed in Maoist attack in Bastar

Two commandos of elite jungle warfare unit among the deceased; 15 personnel injured but are out of danger; six Maoists killed in retaliatory fire, say police; Chief Minister slams 'cowardly act'

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Three personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), two of them commandos of the elite jungle warfare unit CoBRA, were killed and 15 injured in an encounter with Maoists along the boundary of Sukma and Bijapur districts in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh on Tuesday. Six Maoists were killed in the retaliatory fire, the police said.

The shoot-out took place on the first day of a newly established security camp at Teklagudem village, a Maoist stronghold about 450 km from the State capital, Raipur. The attackers were over 500 in number, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said in the evening. He spoke to some of the injured jawans hospitalised in Raipur. Some accounts had pegged the number at even 1,000, the Chief Minister added.

Inspector-General of Police (Bastar Range) Sundarraj P. said that after the camp was set up, a joint team of the Special Task Force, the District Reserve Guard [both components of the State police], the Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA), and the CRPF was patrolling in nearby villages when Maoists opened fire on them.

Deep pain: An injured CRPF jawan being treated at a government hospital after a Maoist attack in Chhattisgarh. PTI

"All the jawans gave a befitting reply and we have received information of six Maoists cadre getting killed but unfortunately, in this encounter, our three jawans – two CoBRA jawans and one CRPF jawan – were martyred. Fifteen were injured too," he said.

The Maoists retreated into the forests following the retaliatory fire. Search operations were on till late in the evening, the police added.

The deceased were identified as constables Devan C. and Pavan Kumar (both from 201 CoBRA) and constable Lambdhar Sinha (150 CRPF). Among the injured are a Deputy Commandant, an Assistant Commandant, four head constables, and nine constables.

Mr. Sundarraj said the injured personnel were taken to the Jagdalpur Medical College and two private hospitals in Raipur. They were out of danger, he added.

Twenty-three security personnel were killed in an encounter with Maoists in the same area in April 2021.

Mr. Sundarraj said that the camp had been established for the security of the people and that the attack would not deter the police.

Expressing solidarity with the security personnel, the Chief Minister said areas perceived as sympathetic to Maoists were now witnessing increased deployment and effectiveness of security forces. This, the Chief Minister said, led to "a disarray among the Naxals and they were resorting to cowardly acts of terror".

SC questions J&K on plea to publish review orders

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday questioned the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir about the non-publication of review committee orders regarding Internet shutdowns in the region.

"Review committee's orders are meant to be published," a Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and Sanjay Karol addressed Additional Solicitor General K.M. Nataraj, who appeared for the Union Territory. The court's remarks came in a petition filed by the Foundation for Media Professionals, which claimed that the authorities were not complying with a Supreme Court direction in the January 2020 *Anuradha Bhasin* judgment to publish the orders for suspension of telecom services.

Justice Karol told Mr. Nataraj that the authorities ought to follow the directions in the judgment. Mr. Nataraj said the deliberations of the review committee need not be made public. He assured the court that he would seek instructions on the issue in time for the next hearing, posted after two weeks.

Navy foils hijacking bid by Somali pirates, rescues 19 Pak. nationals

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

In the second successful intervention within 36 hours, the Indian Navy's offshore patrol vessel *INS Sumitra*, deployed in the Gulf of Aden, neutralised a hijack situation and rescued the Iranian-flagged fishing vessel *Al Naeemi* and its crew of 19 Pakistani nationals from 11 Somali pirates off the east coast of Somalia.

In another incident, a coordinated multilateral response between the Indian Navy, the Seychelles Defence Forces and the Sri Lankan Navy foiled the hijacking bid on a Sri Lankan fishing trawler.

Indian commandos with a group of detained pirates after the Indian Navy freed an Iranian Fishing Vessel hijacked by Somali pirates. AFP

Swift response

The Indian Navy, in a statement on Tuesday morning, said that *INS Sumitra* was pressed into action to locate and intercept the Iranian-flagged fishing vessel *Al Naeemi*, which had been boarded by pirates with its crew of 19 Pakistani nationals taken hostage.

"Responding swiftly to the developing situation, *Sumitra* intercepted the vessel on Monday and through coercive posturing and effective deployment of her integral helicopter and boats compelled the safe release of the crew and the vessel. The ship also undertook confirmatory boarding to sanitise and also to check on the well-being of the crew who were held captive by the Somali pirates."

This incident came just after *INS Sumitra* prevented a hijack incident in the area after responding to a distress message from Iranian-flagged fishing vessel *Iman*, with a crew of 17 Iranian nationals, which had been boarded by pirates and the crew taken hostage.

A hijacking incident was reported aboard the Sri Lankan-flagged fishing trawler *Lorenzo Putha 04* about 955 nautical miles east of Mogadishu, Somalia and three pirates had boarded and hijacked it on January 27.

The Indian Navy deployed *INS Sharada* from Kochi on Sunday afternoon and also tasked its Sea Guardian High Altitude Long Endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle with locating and intercepting the hijacked fishing vessel, the Navy said.

"Additionally, efficient operational coordination and information sharing through the Sri Lanka and Seychelles International Liaison Officers at Information Fusion Centre for Indian Ocean Region (IFC IOR), New Delhi resulted in the interception of the hijacked fishing vessel by *SCGS Topaz* in Seychelles Exclusive Economic Zone on Monday."

The three pirates surrendered to the Seychelles Coast Guard (SCG), all six crew members are safe and the vessel is being escorted to Mahé, Seychelles, the Navy said.

"*INS Sumitra*, over the course of less than 36 hours, through swift, persistent and relentless efforts has rescued two hijacked fishing vessels along with 36 crew, 17 Iranian and 19 Pakistani, in southern Arabian Sea approximately 850 nm [nautical miles] West of Kochi, and prevented misuse of these vessels as mother ships for further acts of piracy on Merchant Vessels," the Navy said on the two incidents to which *INS Sumitra* responded.

The Gulf of Aden has seen a sudden spurt in piracy from Somalia in the last few months after going down completely from the peak around 2010. The Indian Navy has maintained continuous presence with at least one major warship deployed on anti-piracy duties since 2008.

'India-U.S. ties will make the democratic world order stronger'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The capital and technological know-how from the U.S. can help India achieve its goal of becoming a developed country by 2047, while investments here can give the American companies high returns and an avenue of de-risking, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday. In addition, he said that India-U.S. cooperation will act as force multiplier for a rules-based world order.

Bilateral affairs: Rajnath Singh during the event organised by Indo-American Chamber of Commerce.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

'Beneficial for world'

"India is the largest democracy in the world, and the U.S. is another big democracy. When two big democracies cooperate with each other, it will definitely make the democratic world order stronger. This will act as a force multiplier for rules-based order across the globe. Our work together will be beneficial not only to us, but for the entire world," Mr. Singh said while addressing a conference on "Strengthening Indo-U.S. Relationship in Amrit Kaal - Aatmanirbhar Bharat" organised by Indo-American Chamber of Commerce.

Stating that American investments can play a vital role in realising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of *Viksit* Bharat, Mr. Singh termed it a win-win situation for both the countries, stating that India's fast-growing economy, its demographic dividend, skilled workforce, and huge domestic market guarantee high returns to the U.S. companies.

Mr. Singh described India and the U.S. as natural partners who must move forward together in both business and strategic sectors amidst the current global geopolitical scenario.

"India and the U.S. support a free, open and rules-based international order. Due to this, there is a lot of alignment in our strategic interests. Besides, our economic relationship is a win-win proposition for both the countries. The current relationship is driven by twin congruence of shared values and aligned interests, which is a guarantee for long sustainability and robustness of ties," Mr. Singh said.

Aatmanirbhar Bharat

The Defence Minister clarified that the aim of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' is not to cut off from the global system and not to work in isolation. He stressed that it is based on collaboration with friendly countries for shared security and prosperity.

Graziers confront Chinese soldiers in eastern Ladakh

Vijaita Singh
Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

Indian graziers were stopped by Chinese soldiers in the Kakjung area of Ladakh along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) earlier this month, according to a video shot by the local people that was shared on X by Chushul councillor Konchok Stanzin on Tuesday.

In the video, the herders can be seen confronting the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) soldiers when the latter ask them to go back claiming it to be Chinese territory. The local people, who can be heard speaking in a Tibetan language, are seen throwing rocks at the Chinese soldiers.

The incident occurred on January 2 near Patrolling Points 35 and 36 at Kakjung under the Nyoma constituency in Ladakh, Mr. Stanzin said. While Chinese soldiers with their vehicles can be seen in the video, there is no presence of Indian security forces.

Ishey Spalzang, councillor, Nyoma, told *The Hindu* that the area is within India's perception of the LAC.

He said that after the face-off, the sarpanch, the sub-divisional magistrate, and officials of the Indian Army and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) visited the grazing site on January 12. "It is a valley and is essential for winter grazing of cattle. In 2019, the Chinese had tried to stop the graziers but we had pitched tents to assert our claim. The nearest Army unit is present around five to seven kilometres from this place. That particular day they were not present," Mr. Spalzang said, adding that the herders had started from their village around 20 days ago before they reached the location.

Face off: People Liberation Army soldiers and tanks during military disengagement along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh. AFP

Mr. Stanzin said on X, "See how our local people are showing their bravery in front of the PLA claiming that the area they are stopping is our nomad's grazing land. PLA stopping our nomads from grazing in our territory. Seems it is never a never-ending process due to different lines of perceptions. But I salute our nomads, who always stand to protect our land and stand as the second guardian force of the nation." He later told *The Hindu* that the place where the incident happened is within one kilometre of the Indian claim on the line of the border with China.

A defence source said the video is of an incident that happened in the first week of January where "nomad graziers [with livestock] from our side are seen in conversation with PLA soldiers".

Such incidents are commonplace and happen on both sides whenever graziers stray across the LAC on account of the differing perceptions of the LAC, the source said. Such incidents are dealt with appropriately as per established mechanism.

APPEAL

12 years **Adithya** is suffering from B cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and needs Bone Marrow Transplantation at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. The total expenditure is **Rs. 12,00,000/-.** His family is very poor and cannot afford this huge cost. Please help him to have a bright future. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C. No:60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT.
All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No.GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai - 600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/ 7338978027. EMail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.**

WWS

New BJP-JD(U) alliance may cap the evolution of social justice politics

NEWS ANALYSIS

Varghese K. George
NEW DELHI

The pendulum politics of Bihar Chief Minister and Janata Dal(U) chief Nitish Kumar, who swung between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD)-Congress axis several times in recent years, signifies the social kinetics unleashed by the rise of Hindutva. The evident opportunism in the renewal of the BJP-JD(U) alliance is only superficial.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has subsumed the social justice rhetoric within the rubric of Hindutva. This Hindutva 2.0 has thrown old tropes of social justice politics into a tailspin. Mr. Kumar's latest somersault is his last attempt to hold on to his base – he concluded that his political longevity would be higher as an ally of the BJP than as an opponent. The BJP, on the other hand, has split the Opposition and derailed an attempted revival of Mandal politics, through its newest alliance.

Various strands of subaltern politics shared a common scepticism about Hinduism, even as nationalist politics sought to advance a composite Hindu identity through appeasement and coercion. Socialists, the forebears of the current social justice stock, hoped to use the Jan Sangh, the predecessor of the BJP, to undermine the dominance of the Congress. Socialists saw the Congress as the vehicle of upper caste dominance and hoped they could opportunistically ally with Hindutva.

Anti-Congress politics

Hindutva remained a marginal player within the spectrum of anti-Congress politics until the birth of Ayodhya politics in the 1980s. Terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir, supported by sections of Sikhs and Muslims, provided a helpful backdrop to the rise of Hindutva, but the simultaneous rise of Mandal politics raised a barrier. But all social justice groups were not opposing the BJP. Mr. Kumar, under his mentor George Fernandes, split from the Janata family and joined hands with the BJP in 1994.

The relations between Hindutva and caste-based social justice politics remained fluid, with both sides looking to take advantage of the other, even as tensions bubbled underneath.

More to it: The evident opportunism in the renewal of the BJP-JD(U) alliance is only superficial. FILE PHOTO

Mr. Modi's proclamations about his own Other Backward Class (OBC) origins began making a dent in the flanks of social justice politics by 2014.

In 2015, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat's call for a rethink of caste reservations brought forth a resurgence of social justice politics and propelled the JD(U)-RJD alliance to victory in the Bihar Assembly election. But the alliance lasted only for two years. Since then, Mr. Bhagwat has made compendious arguments in favour of continuing with reservations for an indefinite period, resolving a fundamental friction between Mandal and *Kamandal*. The move in the past one year to infuse a new life into Mandal politics through the call for a caste census did not gain momentum.

Mr. Kumar's government conducted a caste survey in Bihar and its results were published, but it did not turn out to be a climactic political event. Meanwhile, Mr. Modi's speech at the inauguration of the temple in Ayodhya recently amplified the subaltern legends that embellish the epic of Ram.

Subaltern Hindutva thrives by expanding representation in politics and cultural spaces that are under construction in the new nationalist project. Subaltern classes that allied with Muslims since the 1990s in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to gain political power find three attractions in the Hindutva model of social justice.

What it offers

First, it allows numerically weaker OBC groups to break away from the Yadav-, Jatav-, and Jat-led politics in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Second, the BJP encouraged OBCs to decouple from Muslims and increase participation in repurposed great traditions. This is presented as upward mobility.

Third, the BJP offers subaltern classes better political representation. Mr. Modi presents himself as a member of the OBC community; the BJP elected a Dalit followed by a tribal woman to the highest office in the country. The combination of these factors have made conventional social justice politics redundant at the moment.

The BJP model has its own contradictions that might sharpen at some point in future. For the moment, the Sangh Parivar has moved to the centre on the question of social justice, and Mr. Bhagwat's changed view on reservations is only one indicator of that. The pendulum of social justice politics might stop swinging for now. Mr. Kumar's opportunism might end with the complete assimilation of his politics by the BJP.

BJP hits out at Kharge over his remark on 'dictatorship'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday criticised Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge for his remark that the 2024 Lok Sabha election will be the "last" in India if Prime Minister Narendra Modi is re-elected, stating that it was in fact "dynastic politics in the name of democracy" that was at an end.

Responding to Mr. Kharge's remark that "if Narendra Modi wins another election, there will be dictatorship in the country", BJP Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi asserted that "only two Prime Ministers were elected democratically in India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Narendra Modi".

BJP wins Chandigarh Mayor poll after eight votes declared invalid

AAP-Congress candidate loses by four votes; Kejriwal accuses BJP of 'hooliganism', Congress terms it 'shameless capture of democracy'; they move High Court challenging the results; neither arithmetic nor chemistry of bloc working, says BJP

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

The Indian National Democratic, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) on Tuesday suffered a setback as it lost the Chandigarh mayoral election to the BJP.

BJP candidate Manoj Sonkar won the post of Mayor by securing 16 votes, including the vote of Chandigarh Lok Sabha member. Kuldeep Tita of the Aam Admi Party (AAP), who was backed by the Congress councillors, managed only 12 votes as the presiding officer declared eight votes "invalid". The AAP-Congress alliance challenged the results in the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

Dramatic win: BJP's Manoj Sonkar (third from right) is greeted by party councillors after being elected Chandigarh Mayor. PTI

The BJP has 14 councillors in the 35-member Chandigarh Municipal Corporation. The AAP has 13 councillors and the Congress seven. The Shiromani Akali Dal has one.

Staging a protest, the Congress and the AAP boycotted the election to the posts of Senior Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayor. The BJP candidates thus won without a contest.

The election was seen as the first test of the INDIA bloc's effectiveness in taking on the National Democratic Alliance and came barely two days after Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar left the Opposition alliance and joined the NDA.

AAP convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal accused the BJP of "hooliganism" and called it a "black day for democracy". "Everyone saw how they stole votes and forcibly made their candidate win. The issue is not who becomes Mayor but the country should not lose and the democracy should not lose," Mr. Kejriwal said.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge accused the "Nathuram Godse worshippers, BJP, of murdering democracy on the day Mahatma Gandhi was killed".

"Brazen, shameless capture of the democratic system," Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal said.

"That the INDI Alliance fought their first electoral battle and still lost to BJP shows that neither their arithmetic is working nor their chemistry," BJP president J.P. Nadda said.

CPI(M) reiterates its support to INDIA, but slams Cong. in Kerala

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The CPI(M) Central Committee, while reiterating its commitment towards the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) bloc on Tuesday, slammed the Congress for "adopting a negative and anti-democratic approach" to the Kerala government.

"Despite the JD(U) deserting the INDIA bloc and collaborating with the BJP, the CPI(M) will make all efforts to further strengthen this formation and continue the activities to defeat the BJP to safeguard the secular democratic character of our Constitutional Republic," the party said.

The party, however, accused the Congress of keeping silent on the Centre's "assault on the rights of Kerala" which, it said, helps the BJP in its manoeuvres against the State government.

The party also asked the Election Commission of India to "restore people's confidence" in Electoral Voting Machines (EVMs) by changing the current sequence of recording ballots. "Voters have no control over or knowledge of what transpires electronically between the VVPAT [voter-verified paper audit trail] device and the control unit. Hence, the CPI (M) has requested the ECI to connect the ballot unit directly to the control unit and from that point to the VVPAT to ensure accurate accounting," party general secretary Sitaram Yechury said.

Suspended MPs to return as last session of 17th Lok Sabha commences today

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Budget Session of Parliament, the last one of the 17th Lok Sabha, will commence on Wednesday. The 14 Opposition MPs who were suspended during the previous session for protesting against the lack of a response from the government after an unprecedented security breach, will return to Parliament, after the Privileges Committee of the two Houses recommended the revocation of their suspension.

A total of 146 Opposition MPs – 100 in the Lok Sabha and the rest in the Rajya Sabha – were suspended for bringing placards into the chambers, and frequently disrupting parliamentary proceedings. While the suspension of 132 members was only till the remainder of the session that ended on December 21, the cases of 14 members (11 in the Rajya Sabha and three in the Lok Sabha) were referred to their respective Privileges Committees.

The session will begin with President Droupadi Murmu addressing a joint sitting of the Lower and Upper Houses. At an all-party meeting, the government urged the Opposition parties to cooperate and ensure that no placards were on display.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present the Interim Budget on Thursday, ahead of the Lok Sabha election likely to be held in April-May. The Budget for Jammu and Kashmir, which is under President's Rule since December 2018, will also be presented during the session.

An all-party meeting chaired by Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Opposition on back foot

With the return of the Janata Dal(U) to the National Democratic Alliance, and the differences evident between the Trinamool Congress and the Congress, the Opposition will be on the back foot. Several senior Congress leaders, including former party chief Rahul Gandhi and general secretaries K.C. Venugopal and Jairam Ramesh, who are participating in the party's Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, are unlikely to be present.

This will be the first Lok Sabha without a Deputy Speaker, a post mandated under Article 93 of the Constitution.

At the all-party meeting chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Opposition members raised a host of issues, and demanded a debate on unemployment, high inflation, agrarian crisis, and violence-hit Manipur. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi addressed presspersons at the conclusion of the meeting. "They [the Opposition] have given suggestions, but since this is the last session of the present Lok Sabha, we [the Union government] have said we will give them an opportunity in the next session," he said.

Trinamool Congress leader Sudip Bandyopadhyay said the Finance Minister should include the pending dues to West Bengal on account of various Central schemes in the Interim Budget. "It is unfortunate that a Chief Minister has to sit on a dharna to demand timely allocation of Central dues to the State," he said.

Nitish caved under pressure; don't need his support: Rahul

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

As his *Bharat Jodo Naya Yatra* traversed Bihar for the second day on Tuesday, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said his party did not need the support of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. "A little pressure and he took a U-turn". "I understand Nitish *ji*'s quandary. I told him that you will have to conduct caste census in Bihar... But BJP was in a panic as they oppose the survey. Nitish *ji* was in a jam and the BJP provided him a back door to escape," Mr. Gandhi said.

Taking a dig at Mr. Kumar, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, "Bihar is known today as political lab of *aaya-rams and gaya-rams*."

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
CHIEF EDITOR OFFICE — e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
Roc.No.TTD-95021(31)/78/2018-Chief Editor Dt:25-01-2024
e-Tenders are invited for supply of Pre-Gumming Address Label Blank for Chief Editor Office, TTD, for a period of one year. For Tender notice and details please log on to the web site **http://www.tirumala.org** and **http://tender.ap.eprocurement.gov.in.**
For further details contact phone numbers: 0877-2264543, 2264363.
Roc.No.PR4/13962/Adv.No.357/PRO/2024, Dated:30-01-2024 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CORPORATION OF THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
No: DB/62983/08 (77) Date: 30.01.2024
TENDER NOTICE
Thiruvananthapuram Corporation online E-tenders (Pre-qualification) are invited for the below mentioned project in 2 bid system.
1. E11/34545/21- Construction of Biogas Plant and Odour Control Systems at Modern Slaughter House in Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation followed by Turn Key basis - Rs.2,11,69,959/-
The detailed e-tender notice is published in our website **https://tmc.lsgkerala.gov.in** and office notice board.
For participating e-tender visit website **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in**
Superintending Engineer

GUJARAT URJA VIKAS NIGAM LIMITED
GUVNL
CIN U40109GJ2004SGC045195
(Wholly-owned company of Govt. of Gujarat)
ISO 9001 -2015 Certified Company
Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan, Racecourse, Vadodara 390007
PBX: (0265) 2310582-86, www.guvnl.com
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
GUVNL invites Tender for procurement of power through competitive bidding process (followed by e-reverse auction) from 1125 MW Grid Connected Solar Photovoltaic Power Projects to be set up in GSECL's RE Park at Khavda (GSECL Stage-3) without energy storage through RfS No. GUVNL / 1125 MW / Khavda / Solar (Phase XXIII) dated 29.01.2024. For tender documents, please visit the website **www.bharat-electronictender.com** and **www.guvnl.com**.
The last date of bid submission is 15.02.2024
Date: 31-01-2024 General Manager (RE)

idco Your power to grow ISO 9001 & 14001 Corporation — ODISHA NEW OPPORTUNITIES
File No.HO/Civil/T&E-E-5041/01/2024 2433 Dt.25.01.24
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (CIVIL), IDCO, IDCO TOWER, BHUBANESWAR
Bid Identification No.Civil/EST-48/2023-24
NOTICE INVITING TENDER UNDER NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

1. Name of the Work	:	Construction of Hockey Training Centre at Tileibani, Deogarh.
2. Value of the Work	:	Rs.1195.15 Lakhs (Approx.)
3. Period of Completion	:	12 (Twelve) Calendar Months
4. Availability of tender online for Bidding		
I. Start Date	:	18:00 Hours of dt.02.02.2024
II. End Date	:	17:00 Hours of dt.16.02.2024
III. Opening date	:	11:30 Hours of dt.17.02.2024

Tender details can be seen from the e-procurement portal: **www.tendersorissa.gov.in.** Corrigendum or Addendum if any will not be published in newspapers and can be seen **in e-procurement portal** as well as on **IDCO website**.
Chief General Manager (Civil), IDCO, Bhubaneswar
CAD-3880: OIPR-14003/11/0367/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE-II, CHANDIKHOLE
Email ID :- seec2chandikhole@gmail.com
'e' Procurement Notice No.ACE, EC-II 12 OF 2023-24(On-line)

1.	Name of the Works	:	1 Improvement to service road on Paika left Embankment from RD 10.124Km. to 14.484Km. (Khurusiapat to Nilachalbazar) in the District of Kendrapara. 2 Improvement to left bank service road of Kendrapara Canal from Marshaghai to Giranga. 3 Improvement to Left Bank Service road on K.Canal from RD. 39.530 Km. to 42.230Km. from village Girigola to Danpur. 4 Improvement to right bank service road of P.Canal from RD 55.045Km. to 58.00Km. 5 Improvement to road on left bank of P.Canal from RD 58.945Km. to 60.900Km. 6 Improvement to left Bank service road of Kendrapara Canal from Chhapali to School Gherry 7 Improvement to Canal System including lining of Distributary No.14 from RD 2245Mtr. to 3425Mtr. of Pattamundai Canal. 8 Restoration of communication facility on Baitarani left embankment near Banasta 9 Improvement to communication facility on CE No. 5(B)A on Baitarani left embankment from Akhuapada to Nereda 10 Improvement to right service bank of HLC Range-III from RD 0.00Km. to 7.00Km. 11 Restoration to road on Baitarani left embankment from Ambagadia to Biridi Railway line 12 Restoration to left bank of Distributary No-2 of HLC Range-III
2.	Total No. of Packages	:	12 (Twelve) No. Individual Packages.
3.	Tender Cost	:	1. Rs. 625.46 Lakh (Approximately); 2. Rs. 248.79 Lakh (Approximately); 3. Rs. 208.96 Lakh (Approximately); 4. Rs. 197.40 Lakh (Approximately); 5. Rs. 205.24 Lakh (Approximately); 6. Rs. 248.69 Lakh (Approximately); 7. Rs. 252.03 Lakh (Approximately); 8. Rs. 250.35 Lakh (Approximately); 9. Rs. 250.29 Lakh (Approximately); 10. Rs. 248.30 Lakh (Approximately); 11. Rs. 247.46 Lakh (Approximately); 12. Rs. 151.33 Lakh (Approximately);
4.	Cost of Bid Document (Non Refundable)	:	Rs.10,000.00 (On-line payment) for each Package
5.	Bid Security	:	1. Rs. 6,25,500/-; 2. Rs. 2,48,800/-; 3. Rs. 2,09,000/-; 4. Rs. 1,97,500/-; 5. Rs. 2,05,300/-; 6. Rs. 2,48,700/-; 7. Rs. 2,52,100/-; 8. Rs. 2,50,400/-; 9. Rs. 2,50,300/-; 10.Rs.2,48,300/- ; 11.Rs.2,47,500/-; 12.Rs. 1,51,400/-
6.	Class of Contractor	:	1. "A" & "Special" for Package No. 1 ; 2."B" & "A" for Package No. 2 to 12.
7.	Period of Completion	:	06 (Six) calendar months for all packages

8. Other details are as follows.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)
Additional Chief Engineer, Eastern Circle - II, Chandikhole	ACE, EC-II KID 25 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II KID 26 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II KID 27 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II KID 28 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II KID 29 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II KID 30 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II KID 31 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II JPD 06 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II JPD 07 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II JPD 08 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II JPD 09 OF 2023-24 ACE, EC-II JPD 10 OF 2023-24	01/02/2024 at 10 A.M	15/02/2024 upto 5.00 P.M.	16/02/2024 at 11.30 A.M.

9. e-mail Id : seec2chandikhole@gmail.com
Further detailed conditions can be seen from the Govt. website www.tendersorissa.gov.in
Sd/- Additional Chief Engineer, Eastern Circle - II, Chandikhole.
A-1322 : OIPR-32322/11/0016/2324

INBRIEF

2 pilots de-rostered for taking off without ATC clearance

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) de-rostered two IndiGo pilots after the airline's Delhi to Baku flight allegedly took off on Monday night without clearance from the air traffic controller. Sources at the Indira Gandhi International Airport said IndiGo's 6E 1803 from Delhi to Azerbaijan's Baku at 7:38 p.m. on Monday took off without a departure clearance from the air traffic controller. "The matter is under investigation. The two pilots have been de-rostered from duties pending investigation," said a DGCA official. The airline said in a separate statement, "The incident is currently under investigation and, appropriate action will be taken as necessary."

ED questions Tejashwi Yadav in land-for-jobs case in Patna

Rashtriya Janata Dal leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav was questioned by the ED at its Patna office for several hours in a land-for-jobs case on Tuesday. This comes a day after his father and RJD chief Lalu Prasad was questioned for 10 hours. A crowd of RJD supporters and leaders camped outside the ED's office waiting for Mr. Tejashwi to come out. "This is not the office of the BJP. When elections come, Opposition party leaders get summons from them," said Rajya Sabha member Manoj Jha. The ED has alleged that land was taken in the name of Mr. Prasad's family members in return for railway jobs while he was Railway Minister.

Modi pays tributes to Mahatma Gandhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi on his 76th death anniversary. Mr. Modi paid floral tributes to the father of the nation at Rajghat in the morning and attended a prayer meeting at Gandhi Smriti in the evening.

"I pay homage to *Pujya Bapu* on his *Punya Tithi*. I also pay homage to all those who have been martyred for our nation. Their sacrifices inspire us to serve the people and fulfil their vision for our nation," he said in a post on X.

Educationist nominated to Rajya Sabha

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu has nominated founder Chancellor of Chandigarh University and educationist Satnam Singh Sandhu to the Rajya Sabha.

The Union Home Ministry announced the decision in a notification here on Tuesday.

Centre starts survey on participation of women in workforce

Study undertaken to assess the spread of women employee-friendly practices such as running creche and equal pay for equal work

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Ministries of Labour & Employment and Women & Child Development have started a joint survey on increasing women participation in the workforce. The survey was announced by Union Minister Smriti Irani here on Tuesday at a function, "Women in the workforce for *Viksit* Bharat".

The survey is being undertaken to assess the spread of women employee-friendly practices in the country. Various international agencies and trade unions, including the International Labour Organization , had expressed concern over the decrease in participation of women workforce in the country.

Latest PLFS data

The latest results of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), released by the Labour Bureau last October, showed a considerable increase in women participation. In 2017-18, the participation rate was 23.3% and in 2022-23, 37%. The survey, conducted by the Union Labour Ministry through the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation and other government agencies, has asked questions to the subscribers of government schemes about policies or initiatives for women by the companies they are employed with.

The latest results of the PLFS show the women participation rate increased from 23.3% in 2017-18 to 37% in 2022-23. FILE PHOTO

The government is seeking details such as formation of the internal complaints committee for prevention of sexual harassment at the workplace, creche for children, equal pay for equal work, flexible or remote working hours for women and transportation facilities during late hours.

A senior officer said the survey is carried out in a confidential manner. "We are not asking the names of [the women] or any other identification detail, except their gender," the officer said. The name of the company, its location and address are also sought in the survey.

'Give maternity leave to construction staff'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Tuesday asked employers to ensure digital payment of wages and paid maternity leave of 26 weeks to women construction workers. These two were a few measures that were part of advisories issued by the Ministries of Road Transport and Highways, and Housing and Urban Affairs to agencies under them to encourage their participation in the workforce.

For more than two children and for adoption or commissioning mothers, 12 weeks of paid maternity leave shall be provided by the employer. In addition to childbirth, the advisories addressed miscarriages, stipulating that if a woman in the construction sector experiences a miscarriage, she is entitled to leave with wages equivalent to maternity benefits for six weeks following the day of the miscarriage.

The advisory also emphasised the proactive role of employers in implementing policies and programmes to encourage women to join the workforce.

7 additional judges made permanent

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Seven additional judges posted in four High Courts were elevated as permanent judges on Tuesday.

Justices Ananya Bandyopadhyay, Rai Chattopadhyay, Shampa Dutt (Paul) and Raja Basu Chowdhury of the Calcutta High Court were made permanent judges. Justice Lapita Banerji of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Justice Shobha Annamma Eapen of the Kerala High Court and Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava of the Jharkhand High Court were also elevated. Justice Subhendu Samanta, an additional judge of the Calcutta High Court, was given a "fresh term" of one year effective from May 18.

Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal announced the appointments in a post on X. Additional judges are usually appointed for a period of two years before being made judges.

Manvendra Singh's wife killed in road accident

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

Congress leader and former MP Manvendra Singh's wife Chitra Singh, 55, was killed in an accident on Tuesday in which he was injured. His son Hamir and driver also sustained injuries.

Their car hit the sidewall of a flyover on the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway. The accident occurred near Khushpuri village in Alwar district.

The cause of the accident is unclear, but the police said the driver appears to have lost control of the vehicle at a high speed and hit the sidewall. The family was travelling from New Delhi to Jaipur. The injured were rushed to a private hospital in Alwar. Mr. Singh, who was injured in the ribs, was stable.

After four years of survey, India's snow leopard count put at 718

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

India has an estimated 718 snow leopards in the wild, according to a first-of-its kind, four-year-long estimation exercise, the results of which were made public on Tuesday.

The snow leopard is known to be an elusive cat and located in mountainous terrain that is hard to access, and the exercise for the first time marks a base threshold for the animal's numbers in India.

The highest number of cats was estimated to be in Ladakh (477), followed by Uttarakhand (124), Himachal Pradesh (51), Arunachal Pradesh (36), Sikkim (21), and Jammu and Kashmir (nine). The current estimate puts the number of Indian snow leopards between 10% and 15% of the global population.

The exercise involved setting up cameras, or camera traps, in 1,971 locations and surveying 13,450 km of trails. GETTY IMAGES

The exercise involved setting up cameras, or camera traps, in 1,971 locations and surveying 13,450 km of trails which teams surveyed for recording signs of snow leopards such as scat, hair and other body markers. Much like the approach used in surveys to estimate tiger numbers, the States conducted the surveys and the Dehradun-based Wildlife Institute of India, an autonomous body of the Union Environment Ministry, used software and statistical methods to estimate the number of individual cats that are present but not caught on camera and combined them with those caught on camera.

"Essentially we use a similar statistical approach to that being used in the tiger surveys for the past 20 years. It's a rigorously tested equation and not dependent on guesswork," V.B. Mathur, former head of the WII, involved in the study, told *The Hindu*.

"Over the years, technology and statistics has improved leading to better estimates. What we now have is a good, scientifically established baseline that will be a reference for future surveys," he added.

The Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAI) began in 2019 and involves the World Wide Fund for Nature-India and the Nature Conservation Foundation, Mysuru, along with the WII.

The snow leopard is classified as 'vulnerable' by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and faces threats from free-ranging dogs, human-wildlife conflicts, and poaching.

India nominates 12 forts of Marathas for UNESCO World Heritage List

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India has nominated the "Maratha Military Landscapes", a network of forts that showcase the strategic military powers of Maratha rule, for inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List for 2024-25.

Pratapgad Fort, situated in Mahabaleshwar, is one of the forts nominated for UNESCO World Heritage List. FILE PHOTO

The 12 forts included in this nomination are the forts of Salher, Shivneri, Lohagad, Khanderi, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala, Vijaydurg and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra and Gingee in Tamil Nadu.

The "Maratha Military Landscapes", which developed between 17th and 19th centuries, represent an extraordinary fortification and military system envisioned by the Maratha rulers. This extraordinary network of forts, varying in hierarchies, scales and typological features, is a result of integrating the landscape, terrain and physiographic characteristics distinctive to the Sahyadri mountain ranges, Konkan Coast, Deccan Plateau and Eastern Ghats in the Indian Peninsula.

They are distributed across diverse geographical and physiographic regions and showcase the strategic military powers of the Maratha rule, the Union Culture Ministry said on Monday.

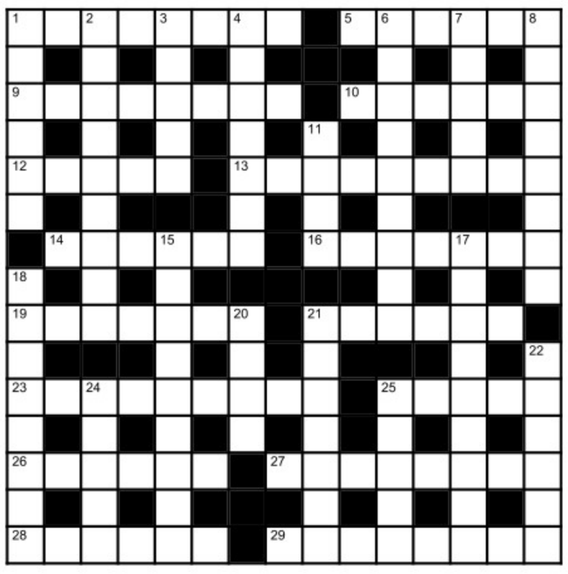
The inception of the Maratha military ideology dates back to 17th century during the reign of the Shivaji Maharaj from 1670 and continued through subsequent rules until the Peshwa rule till 1818 CE.

TH CROSSWORD + 14085

(set by Lightning)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Glow in arcade, perhaps (8)
5 Number nine in standings at first in game (6)
9 Over concerned with correctness, engineer cited a new paper at first (8)
10 Astuteness of copper aboard - so be it (6)
12 Mimicry by primate on railway line (5)
13 Awareness of king currently on narrow platform (9)
14 Story not essentially missing skill (6)
16 Tiredness of stout one regularly missing gluten (7)
19 Invalidate fully in new order (7)
21 Clergyman to heal without a hint of therapy (6)
23 Not good working to conceal fortune - racket may be involved in this (9)
25 Doctor cutting tea for coffee (5)
26 Encroachment at home beside street (6)
27 First to last shoe splitting tumble in kicking game (8)
28 It may be played by pawn easily losing heart (6)
29 Source of light on carrier - one that may fly through space (8)

Down

1 Repeat broadcast of race outside Portugal (6)
2 Grand old blade used in sport where one may have to evade (9)
3 Can no Yankee conceal anger? (5)
4 What an insect may play? (7)
6 Crate also transported in device that moves up (9)
7 Part of piano made for one that keeps moving (5)
8 Star in retrospect embarrassed with editor, split away (8)
11 Whip returned for sport (4)
15 Expel one minister in delight (9)
17 Charges a tenor in a bad way to enter a party uninvited (9)
18 Condescending aristocrat follows saint initially, braking is hard (8)
20 Mythical creature at this time on island (4)
21 Make up of criminal, firm on court (7)
22 Everyone amidst German operation to quickly make progress (6)
24 Physicist split direct and alternating current (5)
25 Doctor on small hill to move fast (5)

SUDOKU

		3		5				
			9		3		7	
6						8	5	
	8	9		7	5			
	6						2	
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

No.SS6054 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

T	R	U	T	H		I	N	T	E	G	R	I	T	Y
H		S		I		B		E		Y		M		I
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R	I	G	H	T		M	O	R	A	L		A	S	S
I		U		A				U				T		
S	I	P		S	W	A	I	N		C	Z	E	C	H
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		A				A				S		P		S
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U		T		I		A		L		E		A		C
P	R	I	N	C	I	P	L	E		V	A	L	U	E

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	2	3	8	1	9	4	6	5
6	4	8	3	7	5	1	9	2
5	1	9	4	2	6	8	7	3
4	3	2	9	6	1	7	5	8
9	7	5	2	8	3	6	1	4
8	6	1	5	4	7	2	3	9
3	8	7	1	5	2	9	4	6
1	5	4	6	9	8	3	2	7
2	9	6	7	3	4	5	8	1

FAITH

Splendour of the Goddess

Sri Papanasam Sivan, in his composition, asks whether a child can live without the merciful care of its mother ('*Thai irangavidil seiyuir vazhumo*?'). A child bereft of the mother's help will display anguish and sadness.

The mother of the Universe, Goddess Mahalakshmi, emerged when celestials and asuras churned the ocean of milk using the Mandhara mountain as the churning staff; Vasuki, the king of serpents, as the cord; and Lord Narayana turning as a tortoise to support the churning. The Goddess made the auspicious bosom of Lord Vishnu her abode. Affluence personified, the Goddess illuminated with Her splendour. She is the Goddess of prosperity, wealth, tolerance, and patience.

Smt. Visaka Hari said in discourse that our backbone is the Mandara mountain, our veins and arteries (*nadis*) are the Vasuki-like cord, our heart is the ocean of milk, and our sitting posture for penance, the koorma (tortoise) asana, is to derive the nectar-like blessings of the Lord with His divine consort.

When Lord Vishnu descended on Earth as Sri Rama and Sri Krishna, the Goddess also descended as Sri Sita and Sri Rukmini. She is the divine energy of the Lord. She is called *Jaganmatha* (the mother of the Universe). She will reside where righteousness is upheld.

BELFAST

Unionists to end boycott of Northern Ireland government

AP

Northern Ireland's main pro-U.K. party, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), said on Tuesday it endorses a deal with the U.K. government allowing it to end a long-running boycott of the province's devolved administration. The DUP walked out of the regional government in February 2022. AFP

HONG KONG

New Hong Kong law to crack down on pro-independence threats

REUTERS

Hong Kong's leader announced on Tuesday the city would urgently create a new security law to crush pro-independence threats, nearly four years after authorities extinguished a huge democracy movement. The law will expand on legislation imposed by China in June 2020 to silence dissent. AFP

BEIJING

U.S., China launch talks on fentanyl trafficking in a sign of cooperation

AFP

American and Chinese officials met on Tuesday to discuss joint efforts to stem the flow of fentanyl into the U.S., a sign of cooperation as the two global powers try to manage their contentious ties. The U.S. wants China to do more to curb the export of chemicals that it says are processed into fentanyl. AP

BOGOTA

Colombia, National Liberation Army rebels extend ceasefire

REUTERS

Colombia's government and the nation's largest remaining rebel group announced on Monday they will extend their current ceasefire by one week to "improve the humanitarian situation", while delegates from both sides who are meeting in Cuba continue to discuss policies that could secure a longer lasting truce. AP

Khan's conviction a week before election is a mirror image of the past: diplomats

While diplomats point to similar cases against other leaders before previous Pakistani elections, control by the Generals appears tighter than in the past; they indicate that this year's election winners will also be 'selected, rather than elected' by the military establishment which pulls the strings

NEWS ANALYSIS

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's latest conviction in the 'Cipher Case' on Tuesday, which comes just 10 days before the general elections, is a dramatic development, but one in step with past elections that have been "managed", said diplomats who have served there. They indicated that this year's election winners would also be "selected, rather than elected" by the military establishment.

While Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) leaders called the 10-year prison sentence against Mr. Khan and former Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi a "sham" and vowed to appeal to higher courts, it seems clear that the verdict is a blow for the party that won elections in 2018 and still claims to be the most popular party in the fray.

"Imran Khan wasn't given a fair trial, not given access to his counsel or media and public despite the higher courts orders, and the decision was reached in haste with no right given to defence counsel to cross-question the witnesses," Syed Zulfiqar Bukhari, PTI's Adviser on International Affairs and Media, said in comments to *The Hindu*. "These cases are politically motivated and stand no chance in higher courts so we are hopeful decision will be overturned."

Role reversal

Former Indian diplomats to Pakistan pointed out that Mr. Khan is undoubtedly a victim, but of a system that he was the beneficiary of in previous elections, when roles were reversed with PML-N chief

Recurring pattern: Imran Khan and Shah Mahmood Qureshi were sentenced to 10 years in prison in the Cipher case. AFP

and three-time Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. In July 2018, with about two weeks to go to the elections, Mr. Sharif was convicted and handed a 10-year sentence on charges of corruption, after being disqualified from public office in the 'Panama Papers' corruption cases, involving his property in London.

"What Imran Khan and the PTI face today is almost identical to what Nawaz Sharif and the PML-N faced then. So India should see this as one more Pakistani election and not very different from others," said former High Commissioner to Pakistan T.C.A. Raghavan, who was posted in Islamabad during 2013-15. "We should wait for the dust to settle and see what comes up."

Another former diplomat also said the conviction of Mr. Khan was not "surprising", and as in the past, all strings were being pulled by the Pakistani military. "This election is fast turning into the mirror image of the 'managed' 2018 election, with Imran Khan at the receiving end of the wrath of the Army this time. The process of his conviction is as questionable as Nawaz Sharif's conviction in 2017-18," said Sharat Sabharwal, who served as High Commissioner to Pakistan during 2009-2013. "A managed election will neither solve the ongoing political crisis, nor result in a government capable of dealing effectively with Pakistan's intractable problems."

Ties with India

Asked about the impact of the expected results of the elections next week on ties with India, Mr. Sabharwal said there could be a "degree of thaw", including some movement on trade. "But the government's ability to deliver on the bilateral relationship will remain contingent upon the will of the Army," referring to Pakistan Army chief Gen. Asim Munir.

While many of the characteristics of previous Pakistani elections are being repeated in 2024, some developments suggest the control exercised by the establishment over elections is more extreme than in the past. In the 2008 elections, held after former PM Benazir Bhutto was assassinated, Mr. Khan's and his party boycotted elections, claiming they would be "manipulated" by the U.S. and then-President Gen. Musharraf to favour Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP), but his party was allowed to contest. In 2013 and 2018, all three major national parties, the PML-N, the PPP and the PTI were in contest, but this time, the PTI has had its election symbol of the "cricket bat" blocked or delisted by the courts, and as a result, PTI candidates are at a further disadvantage.

Israeli forces pose as women, storm West Bank hospital, kill 3

Associated Press
JENIN

The military said the militants were using the hospital as a hideout, without providing evidence

Israeli forces disguised as civilian women and medical workers stormed a hospital on Tuesday in the occupied West Bank, killing three Palestinian militants in a dramatic raid that underscored how deadly violence has spilled into the territory from the war in Gaza.

The Palestinian Health Ministry said Israeli forces opened fire inside the wards of the Ibn Sina Hospital in the town of Jenin. The Ministry condemned the raid and called on the international community to pressure Israel's military to halt such operations in hospitals. A hospital spokesperson said there was no exchange of fire, indicating that it was a targeted killing.

The military said the militants were using the hospital as a hideout, without providing evidence. It alleged that one of those targeted in the raid had transferred weapons and ammunition to others for a planned attack, purportedly inspired by the Hamas assault on southern Israel on October 7 that triggered the war in Gaza.

Footage said to be security camera video from the hospital that circulated on social media showed about a dozen undercover forces, most of them armed, dressed as women with Muslim headscarves or hospital staff in scrubs or white doctor's coats. One in a surgical mask carried a rifle in one arm and a folded wheelchair in the other.

Meanwhile, fighting continued in the Gaza Strip, even as talks inched forward on a ceasefire to pause the war, which began when hundreds of Hamas-led militants stormed into Israel, killing about 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting about 250 others.

Philippines, Vietnam sign deal on South China Sea

Associated Press
HANOI

The Philippines and Vietnam signed agreements on Tuesday to prevent incidents in the South China Sea and broaden cooperation between their coast guards in a growing alliance that will likely be frowned upon by China, which claims virtually the entire waters.

The agreements, along with discussions on enhancing information-sharing and training exchanges between the Vietnamese and Philippine militaries, were forged during a visit to Hanoi by Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

Both sides agreed to boost trade and investment and signed a key deal on rice.

Both countries have had confrontations with China in the strategic waterway for global trade

The Philippines and Vietnam have had especially tense confrontations with China in the strategic waterway and key route for global trade in recent years. Territorial face-offs in the high seas between Chinese and Philippine ships intensified last year, fuelling fears of a wider conflict that could involve Washington, Manila's long-time treaty ally.

Although Chinese and Philippine officials agreed earlier this month at a meeting in Shanghai to take steps to de-escalate tensions, Mr. Marcos while in Hanoi raised his concerns over the long-seething disputes and cited increasingly aggressive actions by the Chinese coast guard.

Vietnamese and Philippine officials did not release specific details of their agreements on managing incidents in the South China Sea and intensifying coordination on maritime issues.

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Executive Engineer (C), Postal Civil Division, Thiruvananthapuram invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate composite tenders for the following work NIT No.24/EE-TVM/23-24(2nd call). Name of work Consruction of Post office building at Kumbla under Kasaragod Division, Kerala Circle. Estimated Cost: Rs. 14093651/- (Rs. 13384585/- (Civil Portion) & Rs. 709066/- (Electrical Portion)/- Earnest Money: Rs. 281873/- Period of completion: 18 months. Last date and time of submission of bid: 20.02.2024 upto 11.00 hrs. The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website https://eprocure.gov.in

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED
6-1-50, Corporate Office, Mint Compound :: Hyderabad - 500 063.

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for filling up of Four (4) Director posts i.e., Projects, Operations, Commercial and Finance in TSSPDCL. The format of application and other details may be downloaded from **www.tssouthernpower.com** under Careers link.

Sd/-
Date: 30.01.2024 **CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR**
R.O.No.:896-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2023-24, Date:30.01.2024

KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - E-Tender Notice
O/o the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Kollam
E-tender ID : 2024_KSEB_643910_1
PAC : Rs. 632.25 Lakhs **Last Date -** 02.02.2024, 05.00pm
E-tender ID : 2024_KSEB_645306_2
PAC : Rs. 1224.834 Lakhs **Last Date -** 14.02.2024, 06.00pm
E-tender ID : 2024_KSEB_645797_1
PAC : Rs. 536.775 Lakhs **Last Date -** 09.02.2024, 05.00pm
E-tender ID : 2024_KSEB_646191_1
PAC : Rs. 661.602 Lakhs **Last Date -** 09.02.2024, 05.00pm
O/o the Chief Engineer (SCM), Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Thiruvananthapuram
E-tender ID : 2024_KSEB_651292_1
PAC : 25,55,67,348/- **Last Date - 09.02.2024**, 05.00pm
E-tender ID : 2024_KSEB_651190_1
PAC : 6,06,31,309/- **Last Date -** 20.02.2024, 05.00pm
Ref : PR/MC1/E463/E-tender/2024 Visit **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in** and **www.kseb.in**

Revenue Department
OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY, (UNDER KPIDFE - IMA & OTHER SCAM)
3rd & 4th Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001
Phone No. : 080 29565353/29604556 **Email :** splocaima-21@ka.gov.in

No: SPLOCA/ADM/80/2023-24 **Date 29-01-2024.**

Publication

Expression of Interest to appoint Advocate for Interstate Cases on Contract.
Under the provisions of KTPP and within the powers conferred upon SPLOCA under 6(2) (d) of the KPIDFE act the Competent Authority can appoint legal practitioner or chartered accountant or any other person whose services are necessary for taking possession of assets and realization of the assets of the Financial Establishment.
The SPLOCA calls for an EOI for contract appointment of advocates in Special courts under PIDFE or other courts required in a) Kolkata Barasat and / or Sealdah Court / High Court and b) Special Court Ernakulam & c) Special Courts / High Courts of UP.
EOI should include: (i) Name: (ii) Age: (iii) Address, E-mail & Contact Number: (iv) Year of LLB: (v) Years at Bar : (vi) Area of expertise and expected monthly retainership: (vii) Effective hearing charges: (viii) Ineffective hearing charges:
Clerkage: (a) Experience of working as an advocate for Government / investigating authorities is preferred.(b)Age not more than 50 years.(c) Proficiency in local language and English is essential.
Nature of Work:1) Assisting the arguing advocate of the Government organization.**2)** Attending the specific case for which the advocate will be appointed.**3)** Assisting in procuring necessary documents, evidence and interviewing witness.**4)** Interpreting Text and conversations in local language.**5)** Filing process as and when required.
The consultancy fee shall be paid in the form of retainership and effective /ineffective charges, Clerkage charges as broadly applicable as charges of Government of Karnataka.
Last Date: 3rd February 2024, 5 pm.
Office Address: O/o SPLOCA, V.V Towers Podium Block, Bengaluru-01.
Email: splocaima21@gmail.com. **Contact :** 8197059992.

Sd/-
Special Officer and Competent Authority
IMA & other KPIDFE cases
Revenue Department Bangalore

DIPR/CP/3291/Zen/2023-24

राजस्थान मेडिकल सर्विसेज कॉर्पोरेशन
रजि. कार्यालय: गाँधी ब्लॉक, स्वास्थ्य भवन, तिलक मार्ग, सी–स्कीम, जयपुर
फोन नः 0141–2228061–62, फैक्स नः 0141–2228065 ई–मेल :rmsc.supply1@gmail.com
CIN: U24232RJ2011SGC035067 Website : http://rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in

क्रमांक : एफ.4 (1) / आरएमएससी / विशेषाधिकारी / अन्तर DDW परिवहन / 2023–25 / 5220 दिनांक: 19.01.2024

ई–निविदा सूचना

निगम के जिला / मेडिकल कॉलेज औषधि भण्डार गृहों (Inter DDW/MCDW) से औषधियों / सर्जिकल्स / सूचर्स आदि के राज्य के जिला मुख्यालयों पर स्थित जिला औषधि भण्डार गृहों तक अन्तर जिला औषधि भण्डार गृह परिवहन कार्य (Inter DDW/MCDW Transfer) एवं NOSQ औषधियों के राज्य एवं राज्य से बाहर परिवहन हेतु 24 माह के लिए दर संविदा हेतु परिवहन व्यवसाय अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत / अनुभवी संस्थाओं / कोरियर सेवा प्रदाताओं से ई–निविदाएँ आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई–निविदाएं निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ही मान्य होंगी। ई–निविदा प्रपत्र, शर्तें एवं अन्य विवरण कार्यालय समय में ई–निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि से दिनांक 07.02.2024 को दोपहर 12.00 बजे तक प्रस्तुत की जावेगी एवं दिनांक 07.02.2024 को सांय 04:00 बजे उपस्थित ई–निविदादाताओं के समक्ष निगम मुख्यालय पर खोली जाएगी।

क्र. सं.	विवरण	अनुमानित राशि (₹ लाखों में)	बोली प्रतिभूति (bid security) (₹ लाखों में) 2%	ई–निविदा शुल्क (₹)	प्रोसेसिंग फीस	प्रि–बिड मीटिंग की तिथि व समय	ई–निविदा प्रपत्र विक्रय की प्रारंभ की तिथि	ई–निविदा प्रपत्र विक्रय की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	ई–निविदा प्रपत्र प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	ई–निविदा प्रपत्र खोलने की तिथि एवं समय
1.	कॉल्ड चैन अन्तर्गत औषधियों आदि के कार्टून अन्तर जिला / मेडिकल कॉलेज औषधि भण्डार गृह (Inter DDW/MCDW) / निगम मुख्यालय पर परिवहन कार्य (राज्य एवं राज्य से बाहर)	132.00	2.64	2360.00 (2000+18% GST)	2360.00 (2000+18% GST)	29.01.2024 3.00 PM	19.01.2024 6.00 PM	06.02.2024 6.00 PM	07.02.2024 12.00 PM	07.02.2024 4.00 PM
2.	नॉन कॉल्ड चैन अन्तर्गत औषधियों / आदि के कार्टून अन्तर जिला / मेडिकल कॉलेज औषधि भण्डार गृह (Inter DDW/MCDW) / निगम मुख्यालय पर परिवहन कार्य (राज्य एवं राज्य से बाहर)									

ई–निविदा प्रपत्र वेबसाईट "http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है एवं वेबसाईट "www.dipronline.org", "sppp.rajasthan.gov.in" एवं "http://rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in" पर देखा जा सकता है। ई–निविदा ऑनलाईन इलेक्ट्रोनिक फॉरमेट में वेबसाईट "http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" पर ही प्रस्तुत की जाएगी। ई–निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क राशि रू. 2360.00 (2000+18% GST सहित), RISL प्रोसेसिंग फीस, राशि रू. 2360.00 (2000+18% GST सहित) के डी.डी. व बोली प्रतिभूति (bid security) के पेटे राशि रू. 2.64 लाख का डी.डी. (देय आरएमएससी, जयपुर) अलग–अलग दिनांक 07.02.2024 दोपहर 12.00 बजे तक निगम कार्यालय में जमा करवाना आवश्यक है। ई–निविदा के दिनांक 07.02.2024 दोपहर 1200 बजे तक तकनीकी ई–निविदा के साथ Generated Scanned copy Upload की जा सकती है।

विशेषाधिकारी
आरएमएससी
राज.संवाद / सी / 23 / 12373

UT OF LAKSHADWEEP
LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVT. OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Ph: 04842323448/458
E-mail: amindivi@asianetindia.com

F.No: LDCL/Stevedoring-1
Dt : 22.01.2024

TENDER

E-tender is invited for engagement of Stevedoring agency for Stevedoring Agency Service for UTLA owned Cargo Barges. For details and E-tendering please visit website **https://www.tenderwizard.com/UTL** and **https://tendersutl.gov.in** Tender due on 12.02.2024 at 11.00 AM. For any help in e-tendering, please contact Help Desk No. 080-40482000 / 9605557738/ 9686115318 **(https://tenderwizard.com/UTL)** and 0120-4001002, 4001005, 6277787 **(https://tendersutl.gov.in).**

Sd/- MD (LDCL)

Board of Secondary Education Rajasthan, Ajmer

Open tender for printing and supply of security based pre-printed computer stationery for Board are invited through e-procurement from the reputed firms. Last date of submission of bid is 12/02/2024 till 03.00 pm. Details of tender document is available on www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.
UBN : SEB2324WSOB00031 सचिव

Office of the Electricity Department
THRISSUR CORPORATION
THRISSUR
RDSS-3116/23 & 4479/23 Dated : 30.01.2024
e-Tender Notice
"Implementation of ERPSI"
"LT ABC re-conductoring work"
log on to :
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
(Sd/-) Assistant Secretary

INBRIEF

TCS extends contract with U.K. firm Aviva for 15 years

Tata Consultancy Services Ltd. (TCS) has announced a 15-year extension of its contract with Aviva, the U.K.'s Insurance, Wealth and Retirement provider, to transform its U.K. Life business and enhance customer experience. As part of this, the end-to-end policy administration and servicing will be expanded to cover more than 5.5 million policies to be managed by Diligenta, TCS's FCA regulated subsidiary in the U.K., on behalf of Aviva, TCS said in a statement.

IKEA expands e-com footprint to 62 districts in four States

IKEA, the Swedish omnichannel home furnishings retailer, has announced the introduction of its e-commerce deliveries across 62 districts in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh on increasing customer demand. "We will leverage the distribution capabilities of our existing physical stores in these States to fulfill the demand from online channels," said Susanne Pulverer, CEO & CSO (Chief Sustainability Officer), IKEA India.

Coromandel International Q3 net profit plunges to ₹228 cr.

Murugappa group company Coromandel International reported consolidated net profit for the quarter ended December declined sharply to ₹228.11 crore from ₹526.85 crore in the year earlier. Revenue from operations of the company stood at ₹5,464.15 crore (₹8,309.59 crore). Contribution of nutrient and allied business to the revenue was ₹4,902.66 crore (₹7,709.83 crore), while crop protection solutions accounted for ₹615.44 crore (₹652.58 crore).

IMF says global 'soft landing' in sight, lifts 2024 growth outlook

Lender upgrades outlook for U.S., China, the two largest economies; cites quicker- than-expected easing of inflation; raises India's growth forecast

Reuters
WASHINGTON

Cheerier outlook
IMF lifts forecast for global economic growth in 2024 by 0.2 percentage point to 3.1%
Chief economist Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas says a "soft landing" is in sight
Overall growth, global trade, however, still remain lower than the historical average, Gourinchas adds
India's growth seen remaining strong at 6.5% in calendar 2024 on resilient domestic demand, says IMF

The International Monetary Fund on Tuesday lifted its forecast for global economic growth, upgrading the outlook for both the United States and China – the two largest economies – and citing faster-than-expected easing of inflation.

The IMF's chief economist, Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas, said the updated World Economic Outlook showed that a "soft landing" was in sight, but overall growth and global trade still remained lower than the historical average.

'Remarkable resilience'

"The global economy continues to display remarkable resilience, with inflation declining steadily and growth holding up. The chance of a 'soft landing' has increased," Mr. Gourinchas told reporters in Johannesburg, adding, "We are very far from a global recession scenario."

But he cautioned that the base of expansion was slow and risks remained, including geopolitical tensions in West Asia and attacks in the Red Sea that could disrupt commodity prices and supply chains.

Delays in announced fiscal consolidation in what Mr. Gourinchas called "the biggest global election year in history" could boost economic activity but might also spur inflation, he added.

The IMF said the improved outlook was supported by stronger private and public spending despite tight monetary conditions, as well as increased labour force participation, mended supply chains and cheaper energy and commodity prices.

The IMF forecast global growth of 3.1% in 2024, 0.2 percentage point higher than its October projection. The historical average for the 2000-2019 period was 3.8%. Global trade was expected to expand by 3.3% in 2024 and 3.6% in 2025, well below the historical average of 4.9%.

The IMF stuck with its October forecast for headline inflation of 5.8% for 2024, but lowered the 2025 forecast to 4.4%. from 4.6% in October.

The IMF said average oil prices would drop 2.3% in 2024, versus the 0.7% decline it had predicted in October, and said prices were expected to drop 4.8% in 2025.

Raises India outlook

Growth in India is projected to remain strong at 6.5% in both calendar 2024 and 2025, with an upgrade from October by 0.2 percentage point for both years, on resilient domestic demand, the IMF said.

"Staying on the path to a soft landing will not be easy," Mr. Gourinchas said, noting that new commodity price spikes from geopolitical shocks, including continued attacks on shipping in the Red Sea, could prolong tight monetary conditions.

He added the IMF was watching developments in West Asia closely, but the broader economic impact appeared "relatively limited" as of now.

Larsen Q3 net profit rises 15% to ₹2,947 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

S.N. Subrahmanyan

Larsen & Toubro Ltd. reported third-quarter consolidated net profit grew 15% to ₹2,947 crore, from ₹2,653 crore in the year-earlier period due to better performance of its energy projects and IT services segments, and aided by better execution at its infrastructure division.

For the period ended December 31, 2023, L&T reported consolidated revenue of ₹55,128 crore recording a year-on-year growth of 19%, aided by a ramp up in execution of a strong order book in the Projects and Manufacturing portfolio.

S.N. Subrahmanyan, Chairman and Managing Director, L&T, said: "We have registered yet another quarter of strong performance, despite the headwinds from a volatile global environment and consequent supply chain constraints."

NCLT issues notice to Sony and ZEEL on suit seeking merger

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) on Tuesday accepted a petition by a Zee Entertainment shareholder seeking the merger of its Indian entity with Sony, which was called off last week despite regulatory approvals.

The Mumbai-bench of NCLT issued notices on a petition moved by Mad Men Film Ventures, a shareholder of Zee Entertainment Enterprises (ZEEL), directing Sony Pictures Network India, now known as Culver Max, to file a reply in three weeks.

Mad Men Film Ventures on Tuesday filed the petition requesting both ZEEL and Sony to implement the merger as it was approved by NCLT in August 2023.

NCLT has set March 12 for the next hearing.

Last week, Sony called off the merger with ZEEL following a stalemate over who will lead the merged entity. This merger could have created a $10 billion media enterprise in India.

The merger was stipulated to be completed before Dec. 21, 2023.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	71,140	-1.11
US Dollar	83.10	0.07
Gold	63,300	0.31
Brent oil	82.19	0.51

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3091.10	26.45
Adani Ports	1187.35	-9.30
Apollo Hosp	6309.80	-19.95
Asian Paints	2954.10	-21.95
Axis Bank	1054.10	-7.15
Bajaj Auto	7566.40	17.60
Bajaj Finserv	1590.55	-46.40
Bajaj Finance	6817.20	-374.45
Bharti Airtel	1158.65	-3.50
BPCL	504.20	11.55
Britannia Ind	5091.75	-45.15
Cipla	1317.10	-19.75
Coal India	402.55	-10.25
Divis Lab	3551.70	-18.90
Dr Reddys Lab	5840.95	-2.75
Eicher Motors	3704.75	35.70
Grasim Ind	2126.15	21.65
HCL Tech	1559.30	-15.25
HDFC Bank	1444.30	-10.35
HDFC Life	575.00	-3.55
Hero MotoCorp	4588.35	-5.15
Hindalco	569.25	1.35
Hind Unilever	2458.65	14.25
ICICI Bank	1016.90	0.50
IndusInd Bank	1519.90	-6.90
Infosys	1651.45	-5.15
ITC	438.05	-11.75
JSW Steel	812.00	0.30
Kotak Bank	1823.60	0.70
L&T	3633.30	-74.70
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5352.80	-95.55
M&M	1620.35	-19.65
Maruti Suzuki	9951.65	-39.75
NestleIndia	2492.05	-6.50
NTPC	315.45	-9.10
ONGC	249.20	-3.30
PowerGrid Corp	254.10	0.15
Reliance Ind	2815.25	-80.85
SBI Life	1399.00	-19.40
State Bank	626.75	3.80
Sun Pharma	1371.75	-29.10
TataConsumerProduct	1122.90	-18.15
Tata Motors	858.85	17.85
Tata Steel	134.70	-0.30
TCS	3800.55	-0.45
Tech Mahindra	1317.85	3.50
Titan	3735.75	-130.90
UltraTech Cement	9963.60	-310.45
UPL	535.25	-4.40
Wipro	472.50	-0.50

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on January 30

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.91	83.23
Euro	89.74	90.09
British Pound	105.08	105.49
Japanese Yen (100)	56.26	56.48
Chinese Yuan	11.55	11.59
Swiss Franc	96.05	96.42
Singapore Dollar	61.87	62.12
Canadian Dollar	61.84	62.08
Malaysian Ringitt	17.53	17.61
Australian Dollar	54.72	54.93

Source:Indian Bank

Rane Brake Lining Q3 net climbs 10% to ₹10 crore

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Rane Brake Lining Ltd. (RBL) reported standalone net profit for the December quarter rose 10% from the year-earlier period to ₹10 crore.

Revenue from operations increased to ₹164 crore from ₹153 crore, while cost of materials remained almost unchanged at ₹87 crore, the leading manufacturer of brake linings and disc pads said.

"Demand continues to remain robust in India except aftermarket though there are increased risk factors globally," Rane Group Chairman L. Ganesh said in a statement.

Wheels India Q3 net declines 18% on low demand and floods

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Srivats Ram

Wheels India Ltd. standalone net profit for the December quarter contracted by 18% to ₹13 crore from the year-earlier period due to low demand in the tractor and mining wheel segments and floods.

Revenue from operations rose 13% to ₹1,131 crore driven by a strong recovery in exports. Exports grew to ₹307 crore from ₹205 crore, the leading manufacturer of wheels for trucks and agricultural tractors among others said in a statement.

"The profits in Q3 were impacted by low demand in the tractor and mining wheel segments and by the floods that affected our Padi plant in the first week of December," said Wheels India Managing Director Srivats Ram. "There was no power for a week at our plant in Padi, and we were not able to run it to full capacity in that period," Mr. Ram added.

Shanthi Gears Q3 net slips marginally to ₹17.43 crore

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Shanthi Gears Ltd. (SGL) standalone net profit for the December quarter contracted marginally to ₹17.43 crore, from ₹17.54 crore in the year-earlier period.

Revenue from operations rose 9% to ₹125.54 crore, while costs of materials increased to ₹67 crore from ₹50 crore, the Tube Investments' subsidiary said in a statement.

SGL generated free cash flow of ₹8 crore (₹6.5 crore) and its order book grew 19% to ₹142 crore.

The board declared an interim dividend of ₹3 per share and it is payable by February 23.

Roca India to invest ₹400 cr. for capacity expansion in TN

N. Anand
CHENNAI

T.N. CM M.K. Stalin addressing the investment conclave in Madrid. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Spain-based sanitaryware major Roca Group announced it would invest ₹400 crore in Tamil Nadu towards process automation of plastics and sanitaryware, capacity expansion of pipes and fittings and upgradation of the Global Technical Centre in Sriperumbudur, said a top official.

"All these investments are expected to be completed by the year end," said Roca India MD K. Nirmal Kumar while interacting with the State Chief Minister M.K. Stalin and the visiting delegates in Madrid on Tuesday.

"Roca India has committed to invest further in process automation to export products to Europe and Australia. Besides, we will be modernising the factories to produce products to meet the consumer demand," he told *The Hindu*.

Dr. Reddy's Q3 net rises 11% to ₹1,380 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories reported consolidated net profit for the quarter ended December increased 11% year on year to ₹1,380.9 crore on the back of growth in mainstay global generics business in the U.S and Europe markets.

Total revenue from operations increased more than 6% to ₹7236.8 crore (₹6789.8 crore), according to the results prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards.

"We delivered another quarter of highest ever sales and robust financial performance aided by new products performance and base business market share gain in the U.S., new products launch momentum and strong performance in Europe," co-chairman and MD G.V. Prasad said in a statement.

Price erosion in certain markets partially offset the gains of increase in volumes of the base business and new product launches. Global generics revenue stood at ₹6,312.4 crore (₹5,927.6 crore), CFO Parag Agarwal said.

On the impact on the situation in Red Sea, he said, "We have been able to divert to different routes... [translating into] some cost escalation and some increase in inventory levels, which we have done to ensure that our sales do not suffer."

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : RE-E-Tn.No. 229, 230, 231, 232/2023 - 24/SE/PH C/ALP-RT-5, RE-E-Tn.No. 233, 234, 235, 236/2023-24/SE/PHC/ALP-RT-4, JJM - Haripad - (1) Construction of 6LL OHSR, 7LL OHSR, 6LL OHSR 10LL Sump zone - 4, Cheruthana & Kumarapuram pump no. 3, 4 & 5 zone - 2, Mavelikkara Thazhakkara, Chettikulangara & Karipuzha and near by Pts-Construction of WTP, OHSR Supply and installation of Transmission mains and Distribution mains, (2) Haripad - 9LL OHSR, 6LL OHSR, Devikulangara zone - 5, Thrikkunnapuzha, Karthikappally & Chingoli zone - 3, Construction of 12LL OHSR, 15LL OHSR - Supply and installation of Transmission mains and Distribution mains, **EMD :** Rs.2,00,000/- to Rs.5,00,000/-, **Tender Fee :** Rs.13,010/- to Rs.19,518/-, **Last Date for Submitting Tender :** 12-02-2024, 02:00 pm, **Phone :** 0477 - 2237954.
Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
KWA-JB-GL-6-2229-2023-24 **Superintending Engineer, PH circle, Alappuzha**

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर
क्रमांक: 4005 दिनांक: 18.01.2024
निविदा सूचना संख्या: 47 वर्ष 2023-2024
NIB No. PWD2324A4184
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से **सीआरआईएफ योजनान्तर्गत स्वीकृत विभिन्न सड़क निर्माण कार्य** हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आंत्रित की जाती है।
निविदा से संबंधित विवरण वेबसाईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। कार्यवार यूबीएन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
1. PWD2324WLOB18097
डीआईपीआर/सी/268/2024
(देवीलाल आर्य), अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. संभाग, प्रथम, जोधपुर

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in
Public Notice
PSPCL is in the process of registration of suitable firms/buyers/recyclers for disposal of General Scrap, Used/Dirty T/f Oil, Lubricating Oil, Battery Scrap, E-waste, Plastic Wastelying in various central Stores, TRYs and Outlet stores throughout Punjab and various types of vehicles related to Projects & Operation organisation through e-auction.
The documents and other compliances required along with General Terms & Conditions for e-auctioning of sale of scrap, obsolete, unserviceable material of PSPCL for registration process are available at https://www.pspcl.in/e-auction-notice.aspx. The firms interested for registration with the PSPCL may register by visitinig the link https://www.tenderwizard.com/PSPCL after fulfilling the requirements of PSPCL. For any query, please contact the undersigned.
Sr.Xen/Disposal,
O/o C.O.S. and D. (South),
PSPCL, Patiala.
96461-19412,
96461-48165
C 75/24 76155/12/2651/2023/31866

PUNJAB AGRO PUNJAB AGRI EXPORT CORPORATION LTD. (PAGREXCO)
(A Punjab State Govt. Undertaking)
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EMPANELMENT OF B2B-SERVICE PROVIDER
PAGREXCO invites Expression of Interest (EOI) for empanelment of Service Providers for Sale of fresh fruits & vegetables/ products processed by PAGREXCO in B2B-Domestic/ International Market by procuring orders on commission basis.
Interested parties can submit their sealed offers superscribing "EOI: Empanelment of B2B Service Provider" by 15.02.2024 upto 5 P.M.
For details log onto: www.punjabagro.gov.in
Note: Any corrigendum(s) shall be published on the above website.
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NA/12/21598/2023/31827

SRI VENKATESWARA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES-TIRUPATI
TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS
(A University established by an Act of A.P.State Legislature)
e-TENDER NOTICE
Tenders are invited through e-tendering process in ap-eprocurement platform (Two bid system) for the **Medical Equipment**. For details Log on to the website **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in** & **https://svimstpt.ap.nic.in** The Director-cum-VC reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.
DONATE LIBERALLY TO "SRI BALAJI AROGYA VARAPRASADINI SCHEME" \ DIRECTOR-CUM-VC

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned by Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP portal)
BESCOM invites tender for the following **Enquiry No.BESCOM /2023-24/EL/WORK_INDENT99** For "Preventive and Breakdown maintenance of all makes of DAS and Non DAS RMUs of all configurations in East Circle area of BESCOM for a period of two years on total turnkey percentage quoting basis" Bid documents available on **31.01.2024** onwards. Last Date for Bid submission on **20.02.2024** at **15:00** hrs. Opening of Bid Document on **21.02.2024** at **15:15** hrs. The Tenders can be obtained through KPP portal website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Aspiring bidders need to register on KPP portal. Bidders can take assistance with KPP helpdesk contact numbers (+91-8046010000, +91-8068948777) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com.
For electricity related complaints Call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP
Sd/-
General Manager (Ele.,)
Procurement, BESCOM

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, (RRN-Lakes),
Annex Building-3, 3rd Floor, Room No.308,
N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.
No. EE/RRN-Lakesh)/Tend-06/2023-24 Date: 30.01.2024
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Call-2)
(Two Cover System), (Through GOK Kppp Portal)
The Executive Engineer, (RRN-Lakes) BBMP Bengaluru invites tenders on item rate basis for the works mentioned below from the registered contractors with CPWD/ KPWD/Railways/MES or any Central/State Govt. Organisations.

Sl. No.	Name of work / Category	Estimate Cost (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (₹. in Lakhs)
1.	Providing chain link fencing to Gandhinagara, Hosakerehalli Lake. **(General).**	100.00	2.00
2.	Providing chain link fencing to Kannalli Lake. **(General).**	150.00	2.25
3.	Providing chain link fencing to Konasandra Lake. **(General).**	200.00	3.00
4.	Providing chain link fencing at Rajarajeshwari Nagara Assembly Constituency. **(General).**	150.00	2.25
5.	Providing chain link fencing at Yashwanthpur Assembly Constituency. **(General).**	150.00	2.25

Calendar of Events: (1) Available of Tender Documents from: **31.01.2024 after 11:00 a.m. (2)** Pre-bid meeting will be held on : **05.02.2024 at 4:00 p.m. (3)** Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders: **07.02.2024 upto 4:00 p.m. (4)** Opening of Technical bid: **08.02.2024 at 4:30 p.m. (5)** Opening of financial bid: **will be informed later (after approval of technical bid).** Further particulars can be obtained from the above office during working hours on working days or from **website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer, (RRN-Lakes), BBMP.

REHAB

Pant slowly getting fit, expected to return to the pitch this year

FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Rishabh Pant on Tuesday provided an injury update as he looks to regain fitness ahead of the upcoming IPL. He posted a story on Instagram, sweating it out in the gym, as he looks to make his first appearance on the field since December 2022. He is expected to return to the pitch this year.

TALISMAN

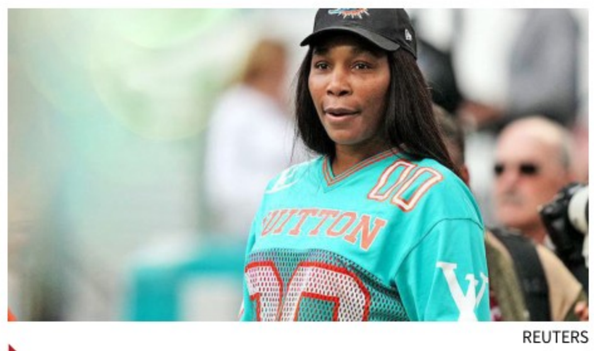
India badly missed Kohli in Hyderabad Test: Boycott

K. MURALI KUMAR

Former England opener Geoffrey Boycott feels India missed Virat Kohli in the series opener. "Kohli is their talisman. He is a magnificent batter who averages 60 on Indian pitches but he also gives them great energy in the field... England must make the most of it before he comes back for the third Test," Boycott said.

NOT QUITTING

Venus Williams plans to make a return in Indian Wells



REUTERS

Venus Williams is preparing for a return to tennis during the North American hard-court season, and she is drawing inspiration from her sister Serena Williams. "One of my big goals is to play United States, to play in the Miami Open and at Indian Wells. I have not played there since 2019 due to injuries," Venus said.

IMPRESSIVE SHOW

Paltan rout Titans to return to the top of PKL standings

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Puneri Paltan scored a crushing 60-29 win over Telugu Titans to go to the top of the standings in the Pro Kabaddi League in Patna on Tuesday. Akash Shinde (11 raid points), Mohd. Chiyaneh Shadloui (7 points) and Abinesh Nadarajan (5 tackle points) did the star turn for Paltan in their comprehensive victory.

Musheer and Saumy star as India romps past NZ

The opener flays the Kiwi attack to score 131, crosses 300 runs in this edition; Adarsh chips in with a fifty; the spinner then takes over as the opponent is skittled out for 81

Dazzling duo: Saumy got into the act after Musheer took India close to the 300-run mark. TWITTER@ICC/BCCI

UNDER-19 WC

Press Trust of India
BLOEMFONTEIN

Musheer Khan's superlative showing in the ongoing ICC U-19 World Cup continued as his second hundred trampled New Zealand by 214 runs in a Super Six encounter here on Tuesday.

After India's top performer Musheer's 131, backed by opener Adarsh Singh's 52, powered India to a huge total of 295 for eight, left-arm spinner Saumy Kumar Pandey (four for 19) and pacer Raj Limbani (two for 17) ripped apart New Zealand's top-order to bowl it out for 81 in 28.1 overs.

Limbani struck off the first and fifth deliveries of the New Zealand innings to ensure that the momentum remained with India.

Vice-captain Saumy finished with splendid figures of 10-2-19-4 as he knocked the stuffing out of the Black Caps' chase.

Left reeling at 27 for four in the PowerPlay, New Zealand could never stage a comeback as the Indian colts, like in every edition, look like going all the way.

Third heaviest loss

For New Zealand, it was its third heaviest defeat in terms of runs and also its third lowest total in the Under-19 World Cup.

Earlier, Musheer flayed the Kiwi attack to score his second century of the 2024 edition while opener Adarsh Singh struck 52 as India set its opponent a stiff 296-run target.

On a perfect batting wicket at the Mangaung Oval, Musheer tore apart the Kiwi bowlers to become the first batter in the current edition to go past the 300-run mark, going past Pakistan's Shahzaib Khan with his superb knock.

Musheer, en route his 131, blasted 13 fours and three sixes off just 125 balls and once again showed the right temperament to up the ante when it mattered.

His innings, which was marked by fine running between the wickets, ended when he was looking to accelerate in the slog overs.

Musheer and Adarsh carried out a fine recovery job with a 77-run stand for the second wicket after an early blow for India.

Adarsh took charge of attacking the bowlers as he looked good while driving on the rise and also played the pull-shot with elan.

Unfortunately he failed to keep a drive in check when Zac Cumming teased him with one outside the off-stump.

A thick edge off Adarsh's bat flew to Oliver Tewatiya at point in the 18th over. The left-handed opener made a fine 52 off 58 balls with six fours.

Skipper Uday Saharan was dismissed for 35 (57b, 2x4).

Saharan put on 87 with Musheer – India's best for the day – before Saumy and Limbani ran through New Zealand.

The scores:
India 295/8 in 50 overs (Adarsh Singh 52, Musheer Khan 131, Uday Saharan 34, Mason Clarke 4/62) bt New Zealand 81 in 28.1 overs (Saumy Pandey 4/19).
India's next match: Feb. 2 vs. Nepal.

India's conundrum ahead of crucial second Test

ENGLAND IN INDIA

P.K. Ajith Kumar
VISAKHAPATNAM

Crunch time: Skipper Rohit needs to take a few brave calls as India looks to draw level. K. R. DEEPAK

Bad things come in threes. Maybe in fours, in the case of the Indian cricket team.

A defeat at home after taking a lead of 190 is bad enough, but being forced to rejig the eleven for the next game can be quite a challenge. India indeed has to sort a few things out before the second Test against England begins here on Friday.

Mohammed Shami has been out of action, because of an ankle injury, since his spectacular show at the World Cup. Then, Virat Kohli pulled out of the squad for the first two Tests because of personal reasons.

K.L. Rahul was the obvious choice to occupy Kohli's No. 4 position and the Karnataka batter justified the team management's faith in him by making a fine 86 in the first innings, but has quadriceps pain and will not feature in the second Test.

The only Indian who scored more than Rahul at Hyderabad also sustained an injury and is not available, either. Ravindra Jadeja will be badly missed. He is not merely a world class spinner but a reassuring presence in the middle-order, not to mention his left-handedness.

Remember, there is no Rishabh Pant, either; the dashing left-hander is still recovering from the injuries he sustained from a car accident over a year ago. It perhaps is not the best of times to be the Indian coach, captain or selector. They will have to make some choices within the next couple of days before the team takes on a history-making, raring-to-go England side at the Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy Stadium.

Obvious chances

An Indian batter is bound to make his Test debut on that ground. Rajat Patidar, Kohli's replacement, had joined the team on the eve of the Hyderabad Test, while Sarfaraz Khan was named in the squad on Monday.

They both have played for India-A against the touring England Lions and have had considerable success. Patidar, the top-order batter from Madhya Pradesh who made his ODI debut in South Africa last month, had scores like 111 and 151 against the Lions at Ahmedabad. Sarfaraz, Mumbai's run-machine extraordinaire in the middle-order, had scores such as 96, 55 and 161.

The team management may not find it easy to fill the Jadeja-shaped hole. Kuldeep Yadav's left-arm wrist spin is a fascinating option - he has been in excellent form with the white ball and from his eight Tests, he has three five-wicket hauls – but, of course, he is no all-rounder.

Washington Sundar is. He made 62 in his first Test innings and in the second, he hooked Pat Cummins for a stunning six that changed the course of India's historic chase at the Gabba against Australia three years ago. The off-spinning all-rounder scored 96 not out in his last Test innings.

India's other spinning option, Saurabh Kumar, can also bat, and has two First Class hundreds. It would be interesting to see if the host would consider playing just the one seamer in Jasprit Bumrah and play a spinning all-rounder.

Mayank Agarwal.
FILE PHOTO: S.S. KUMAR

Mayank survives serious health scare

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Test cricketer and Karnataka captain Mayank Agarwal survived a serious health scare on Tuesday, just as he and his teammates were about to fly out of Agartala for Delhi en route Surat for their next Ranji Trophy match against Railways starting this Friday.

According to team sources, Mayank allegedly consumed spirit (disinfectant and cleaning agent) in the Indigo flight after mistaking it for bottle of drinking water.

He is said to have spat out most of it after experiencing an immediate burning sensation, and was quickly deplaned and rushed to a local hospital, where he continues to be in the ICU.

There is, however, no threat to the 32-year-old's life and he is currently stable, *The Hindu* understands. Mayank will be assessed further and then flown to Bengaluru for the next stage of treatment.

Because of the incident, the Delhi-bound flight left Agartala only at 4.20 p.m. and the Karnataka team missed its connecting plane to Surat. The team will thus fly out of Delhi Wednesday morning.

Tamil Nadu's Keerthana causes a flutter, rewrites National youth record in girls' 81kg

KHELO GAMES

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu weightlifter R.P. Keerthana broke the National youth record in snatch, clean and jerk and overall to clinch the gold in the girls' 81kg category at the Khelo India Youth Games here on Tuesday.

Keerthana lifted a total of 188 kgs, including 85kg in snatch and 106kg in clean & jerk to finish ahead of Statemate K. Oviya (184kg). The previous record in snatch (81kg), clean & jerk (104kg) and overall (185kg) was held by Ch. Srilakshmi of Andhra Pradesh set at the National youth championships last year in Nagercoil.

Manipur won the girls' football gold for the second successive time, defeating West Bengal on penalties 8-7 in the final, after the teams played out a goalless draw in the regulation time.

Maharashtra is at the top of the medals tally with 53 gold, 46 silver and 50 bronze medals. Haryana is in second position (35, 22, 46) while Tamil Nadu is in third place (35, 20, 36).

The results:
Archery: Recurve: Boys: Recurve: 1. Shubham Kumar (Bih); 2. Laishram Nelson (Man); 3. Atharva Sharma (Raj). **Girls:** 1. Avani (Har); 2. Sharvari Shende (Mah); 3. Jannat (Har).
Compound: Boys: 1. Sukhmandeep Singh (Pun); 2. Harsh Kumar (Chd); 3. Mihir Apar (Mah); **Girls:** 1. Aditi Gopichand Swami (Mah); 2. Tejal Salve (Mah); 3. Kumud Saini (Del).
Mixed team: Recurve: 1. Pruthviraj Ghadge & Sharvari Shende (Mah); 2. Agastay Singh & Avani (Har), 3. Atharva Sharma & Pranjal Tholiya (Raj).
Compound: 1. Manav Jadhao & Aditi Swami (Mah); 2. Pendyala Trinath Chowdary & Kengam Saranya (AP); 3. Aryan Yadav & Kumud Saini (Del).

Raising the bar: Keerthana lifted a total of 188kg to clinch the 81kg gold with a new record. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Badminton (finals): Boys: M.A. Laksh Chengappa (Kar) bt Ansh Negi (Utk) 21-17, 21-13. **Doubles:** G.P. Vinayakram & M. Swastik (TN) bt Bhavya Chabra & Param Choudhary (Del) 21-18, 21-18. **Girls:** 1. T. Surya Charishma (AP) bt Aesha Gandhi (Guj) 21-14, 21-14. **Doubles:** Taarini Suri & Shravani Walekar (Mah) bt Pragati Parida & Vishakha Toppo (Odi) 21-13, 20-22, 21-16.
Shooting: Mixed team: 1. Yuvek Battula & Venkat Lakku (TS); 2. Vanshika Tiwari & Udyaman Rathore (MP); 3. Zorawar Bedi & Risham Guron (Pun).
Tennis: Doubles final: Girls: Maaya Rajeshwari & Lakshmi Prabha (TN) bt Suhitha Maruri & Sreenidhi Balaji (Kar) 6-2, 6-1.
Weightlifting: Boys: +102kg: 1. Suvansh Thakur (HP) 280kg; 2. David Zohmingmawla (Miz); 3. Sarth Jadhav (Mah). **Girls: 81kg:** 1. R.P. Keerthana (TN) 188kg; 2. K. Oviya (TN); 3. Santushti Choudhary (UP). **+81kg:** 1. Amritha P. Suni (Ker) 181kg; 2. Aditi (UP); 3. Y. Chaitna Kumari (AP).
Swimming: Boys: 200m medley: 1. Yug Chelani (Raj) 2:10.73; 2. Siddhant Singh Jadon (MP); 3. Saswata Roy (WB); **200m backstroke:** 1. Nithik Nadella (TN) 2:04.60; 2. Rishabh Anupam Das (Mah); 3. Akash Mani (Kar); **800m freestyle:** 1. Mongam Theerdu Samadev (AP) 8:29.77; 2. Gotteti Sampath Kumar Yadav (AP); 3. S. Dharshan (Kar).
Girls: 200m medley: 1. Shreenithi Natesan (TN) 2:26.78; 2. Saanvi Deshwal (Mah); 3. Subhranshini Priyadarshini (Asm); **200m backstroke:** 1. Palak Ashutosh Joshi (Mah) 2:18.59; 2. Sri Nithya Sagi (TS); 3. Naisha (Kar).

Sharath confident of Indian men booking Paris ticket

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

India's star paddler Sharath Kamal is quite confident of the Indian men's team qualifying for the Paris Olympics through the World team table tennis championships in Busan from February 16 to 25.

"This is our last chance [World team championships] to make it to the quadrennial event. I am pretty confident we can make it to the knockouts (top three make the grade from eight groups). If we make it to the quarterfinals, we can make it to Paris.

"Our men's team is ranked 16 now. We will go up to 15 once the world team rankings are released next week. Of course, the deadline is July 2024," said the 41-year-old here on Tuesday. The Indian men's team is in Group 3 with Korea, Poland, New Zealand and Chile. There are eight groups and the top three from each group will make it to the knockouts.

Sharath. M. VEDHAN

Assessing the teams, Sharath said: "Korea is a top team while Poland is a dangerous young side. We also have a young team, including Harmeet Desai and Manav Thakkar. I am fit.

"Sathiyan is recovering from back injury and will be back. As for me, I have been focusing on Worlds for the last six months. We are confident," he said.

Sharath's mind is focused only on the Worlds. "It will be the be-all and end-all as far as I am concerned. India has never qualified for Olympics as a team. If we do it, we will get funding from SAI and other external sources. We are sorted for the next four years," he said. Sharath, however, is not keen on playing singles at Paris. "I might not try as it hasn't given me the motivation.

"I might not take part in the South Asian qualifying tournament as I don't want to compete with the youngsters whom I am mentoring.

"If we qualify in men's team, two singles places are guaranteed (TTFI can decide as to who should go). I don't want to go there, too. In doubles, I will contribute," he said.

Sharath is more than eager to give it his all for a final shot at Paris.

INBRIEF

Messi and Suarez score but Miami falls to Al Hilal

Luis Suarez bagged his maiden goal for Inter Miami and Lionel Messi scored a penalty but it was not enough to stop the MLS side falling to a 3-4 defeat against Saudi Pro League side Al Hilal in Riyadh on Monday. An 88th-minute header from Brazilian Malcom settled an entertaining friendly after Miami fought back to 3-3 from 3-1 down early in the second half. The game was the latest leg of Miami's pre-season tour.

The result: Al Hilal 4 (Mitrovic 10, Al Hamddan 13, Michael 44, Malcom 88) bt Inter Miami 3 (Suarez 34, Messi 54-pen, Ruiz 55).

India loses to Netherlands in the quarterfinals

Mohammed Raheel's hat-trick went in vain as India suffered a 4-7 defeat against Netherlands in the quarterfinals of the FIH Hockey5s Men's World Cup in Muscat on Tuesday. Apart from Raheel (first, seventh, 25th minutes), Mandeep Mor (11th) scored for India. For Netherlands, Sander de Wijn (fourth, 15th), and Alexander Schop (10th, 26th) got a brace each, while Lucas Middendorp (12th), Jamie van Aart (13th), and Pepijn Reyenga (20th) also found the net. India will play Kenya in the fifth-eighth place match.

Senior-ranking badminton tournament from today

Yonex Sunrise All India senior-ranking badminton tournament will begin from Wednesday at the KBA courts in Bengaluru. Over 1600 men and women will be competing across singles, doubles and mixed doubles categories. Finals will be held on February 6 (Tuesday).

Prime Volleyball League in Chennai from February 15

The RuPay Prime Volleyball League, powered by A23, will be held from February 15 to March 21 at the Nehru Indoor Stadium in Chennai. Nine franchises – Ahmedabad Defenders, Bengaluru Torpedoes, Calicut Heroes, Chennai Blitz, Delhi Toofans, Hyderabad Black Hawks, Kochi Blue Spikers, Kolkata Thunderbolts, and Mumbai Meteors – will vie for the trophy.

L&T Mumbai Open to have three top-100 players

Three top-100 players – Kayla Day of USA, Nao Hibino of Japan and Tamara Zidansek of Slovenia – are scheduled to compete in the L&T Mumbai Open $115,000 WTA tennis tournament to be staged at the Cricket Club of India (CCI) courts from February 5. Only Prarthana Thombare has got a direct entry in doubles among the Indians, with Dutch partner Arianne Hartono. Ankita Raina and Rutuja Bhosale are also expected to make the main draw of doubles.

Raiza Dhillon misses skeet final by one point

Raiza Dhillon shot 114 and missed making the women's skeet final by one point to finish 11th in the shooting World Cup in Cairo, Egypt, on Tuesday. Ganemat Sekhon (112) and Areeba Khan (108) placed 15th and 22nd. In men's skeet, Munek Bhattula placed 18th with a total of 119. Abhay Singh Sekhon (119) placed 16th. In the 25-metre rapid fire pistol event, Anish Bhanwala and Vijayveer Sidhu shot identical score of 119 for the 10th and 11th spots respectively.

Rakitic leaves Sevilla, signs with Saudi's Al-Shabab

Former Croatia midfielder Ivan Rakitic has left Sevilla following a second spell at the club ahead of his move to Saudi Arabia's Al-Shabab, the LaLiga side said on Tuesday. He helped Sevilla win a record-extending seventh Europa League title last year. The 35-year-old earned more than 100 caps for Croatia between 2007-2019.

LIVE TELECAST

Men's U-19 CWC: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 1.30 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 1 a.m. (Thursday)
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.30 a.m. (Thursday)

'Rohan is a terrific guy and has been a great representative for India'

Vijay Amritraj, felicitated for being inducted to the Hall of Fame, lauds Bopanna on his incredible achievement; says it would be disappointing if the Davis Cup team suffers a reverse in the World Group I Play-Off

TENNIS

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Close to 43 years have passed since Vijay Amritraj reached a career-high men's singles ranking of 18. The passage of time, however, has not diminished his appeal.

Still dapper at 70, Amritraj was the cynosure of all eyes at an event hosted by The Leela Palace here to honour his induction into the Tennis Hall of Fame (contributor category). Amritraj held court effortlessly with his friendly demeanour and quick wit.

Classy raconteur: Amritraj held court effortlessly with his friendly demeanour and quick wit. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Birthplace of tennis

Amritraj will be inducted into the Tennis Hall of Fame at Newport (USA) – a city where he has won three titles (1976, 1980 and 1984).

"The setting in Newport is spectacular. It is the place where tennis was born in the USA," Amritraj said. Amritraj took a moment to remember his late parents – Robert Amritraj and Maggie Dhairyam.

"My greatest talent was being born to the right parents," Amritraj said.

Amritraj praised Rohan Bopanna, who recently claimed the Australian Open men's doubles title to become the oldest man to win a Grand Slam.

"You must have tremendous support from family, especially your spouse, to stay with it for this long duration of time.

"To play at 43 – the tough part is all the work that must be put in before matches. As you get older, you slow down. The shot that was once routine is not routine anymore," Amritraj said.

"The advantage is that Rohan plays doubles. Doubles and singles is like night and day. If you have to run down everything for three hours, as you do in singles, it would have been a nightmare. The good thing is that he has a good serve, so there will always be free points," he said.

"More than anything else, Rohan is a terrific guy. He's been a great representative for India," Amritraj added.

Later this week, India takes on Pakistan in a Davis Cup 2024 World Group I Play-Offs tie at Islamabad (Pakistan).

India will slip back to Group II if it loses – a scenario that does not sit well with Amritraj.

"I have never known what it is like to be in Group II. I never even knew a Group II existed. That is not where India belongs. It is the players' job to get us out of it," Amritraj said.

Don't take it lightly

Amritraj warned against taking the Pakistan team lightly.

"Firstly, I do not know how good the grass courts are in Pakistan. Their players are generally good on grass," he said.

Deepti. FILE PHOTO: EMMANUAL YOGINI

Deepti second among bowlers in T20I rankings

Press Trust of India
DUBAI

India's Deepti Sharma rose one place to joint second while teammate Renuka Singh also moved up a spot to 10th in the latest ICC women's T20I bowling rankings issued on Tuesday.

Pakistan's Sadia Iqbal took the joint second spot with Deepti after moving up one place. England's Sarah Glenn was at fourth after rising a rung. England's Sophie Ecclestone maintained a healthy lead at the top of the T20I rankings for bowlers. There was no change within the top 10 of the latest T20I rankings for all-rounders with Deepti retaining the fourth spot.

Zeeshan.

Zeeshan is both captain and coach for Davis Cup tie

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The All India Tennis Association (AITA) has asked coach Zeeshan Ali to take over the job of the captain as well for the Davis Cup World Group play-off tie against Pakistan to be played in Islamabad on February 3 and 4.

It was announced that the captain of the Indian team Rohit Rajpal has not been able to join the squad in Pakistan owing to personal reasons.

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Roshni scores 119 as Karnataka women rout Pondicherry

BENGALURU: Roshni Kiran scored 119 as Karnataka registered a thumping 213-run win over Pondicherry in the BCCI under-23 women's one-day Trophy in Kolkata.

The scores: Karnataka 292/6 in 50 overs (Roshni Kiran 119, Niki Prasad 65, A. Shishira Gowda 42 n.o., R. Abirame 3/35) bt Pondicherry 79 in 47 overs (Ananya Hegde 4/8).

Mohsin stars for Karnataka against Himachal Pradesh

Mohsin Khan starred for Karnataka with a match-haul of 11 wickets (7/47 & 4/24) as it beat Himachal Pradesh by two wickets in the Col. C.K. Nayudu (under-23) Trophy at Nadaun, HP.

The scores: Himachal Pradesh 169 in 62.5 overs (Kushal Pal 29, Mridul P. Surroch 54, Mohsin Khan 7/47) & 163 in 51.3 overs (Kushal Pal 42, Aryavrat Sharma 31, Mridul P. Surroch 32, Y.R. Monish Reddy 4/61, Mohsin Khan 4/24) lost to Karnataka 160 in 48.4 overs (Akshan Rao 30, Saurav Himalavi 3/34, Divesh R. Sharma 4/32) & 174/8 in 35.3 overs (Prakhar Chaturvedi 55, Akshan Rao 26, Aneeshwar Gautam 26, Divesh R. Sharma 5/54).

Atharv and Sukruth excel as Karnataka hammers Kerala

Atharv Deshapande (5/22) and J. Sukruth (5/10) were instrumental in Karnataka's innings and 64-run victory over Kerala in the under-14 boys South Zone tournament match in Goa.

The scores: Kerala 115 in 50.2 overs (Ishaan M. Raj 33, Atharv Deshpande 5/22) & 67 in 27.2 overs (J. Sukruth 5/10) lost to Karnataka 246/7 decl. in 63.2 overs (Chavanth R. Gowda 39, Syaamantak Anirudh 73, Aditya Jha 36 n.o., Atharv Deshpande 53, Khasim 3/45).

Bengaluru FC recruits Chinglensana 'Sana' Singh

Bengaluru FC, on Tuesday, announced the signing of defender Chinglensana 'Sana' Singh on a long-term deal,

'Sana' Singh. FILE PHOTO

touted to be for more than five years. Sana, who won the ISL League shield with FC Goa in 2019-20 and the ISL championship with Hyderabad FC in 2020-21, is the first addition into the BFC squad under Spanish coach Gerard Zaragoza.

The 27-year-old from Manipur, who began his professional career in the I-League with Shillong Lajong in 2015, has also made appearances for Delhi Dynamos, FC Goa and Hyderabad FC in the ISL over the last seven years.

Sana's move was made possible after he successfully terminated his contract with Hyderabad FC, which has been in financial doldrums. Sana, along with three other players, had appealed to the AIFF player status committee over unpaid salaries and the committee allowed for the transfer to take place.

Sirish's five-for highlights Hosakote's three-wkt. victory

M.P. Sirish (5/18) helped Hosakote CC defeat Indiranagar Cricketers by three wickets in the KSCA (Group I) fifth division league.

The scores: YMCA (2) 184 in 39.1 overs (Prashanth Gowda 29, Nadeem 46, Velu Vishwanath 32, M. Pranav 3/22, S. Tejas 3/30) lost to Young Cricketers (2) 187/6 in 35.1 overs (Micheal 60, Aalapkrishna Manikandan 51).
Royal Chintamani 325 in 48.5 overs (Aereeona Alphen 42, S. Deepak 53, Kavisha Umesh Mukkannavar 97, Gowtham Shankar 3/46) bt Govt RC College 147 in 28.2 overs (S.A. Sudarshan 80, Vismai Bahuguna 4/28).
Indiranagar Cricketers 124 in 36.4 overs (D.R. Ganesh 44, M.P. Sirish 5/18) lost to Hosakote 127/7 in 31.2 overs (N. Manu 26, J. Madhu 33, Deepak Gowda 4/39).
Young Boys CA 149 in 36 overs (Ashith Kumar Gowda 35, Manish Parasher 64 n.o., V. Divyesh 4/36) lost to Modern Cricketers 152/6 in 30.5 overs (S. Umashankar 33, B.K. Pradeep 28 n.o., Prathik Venkatesh 3/38).
Kapali CC 124 in 40 overs (Pranav Maesh 35, N. Sunil 4/28, P. Shashank 3/45, V.R. Udbhava Kumar 3/28) lost to Southern Cricketers 126/6 in 16 overs (B.K. Shashank 39, C. Manu 26 n.o., Tahir 3/34).
Bangalore Sports 165 in 35.5 overs (S. Santosh Kumar 103, Prem Kumar 3/29, Gourav Babbar 4/22) bt Zodiac 119 in 29.5 overs (K.S. Chethan 38, Gourav Babbar 25 n.o., G.S. Arun Kumar 4/34, G.R. Prapul Pateel 4/52).
Chamarajpet 167 in 44.3 overs (C.H. Kashish 80 n.o., D.G. Vasanth Kumar 3/30, H.N. Nagasimha 4/27) lost to Prathibhe Talented Trust 173/3 in 36 overs (N.S. Pramod 69 n.o., Akhil Prakash 42, R. Manjunath 28 n.o.).

Shahil 'tricks as Snipers FC wins big

V.P. Shahil scored a hat-trick as Snipers FC beat Al Fateh FC 5-1 in the BDFA B-division league championship here on Tuesday.

The results: Vijayanagara FC 1 (Aktharudheen 39) bt CIL FC 0; Stride FC 2 (M.J. Bhanu 38, Taarush Vashisht 62) bt Postal Dept FC 0; Snipers FC 5 (V.P. Shahil 13, 17, 65, Paogoulal Lhouvum 32, Anand Ashok 33) bt Al Fateh FC 1 (Shaik Inayathulla 43).

West Indies give us a peep into the past, England into the future

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

Brisbane is 9450 kilometres from Hyderabad, yet in a cricketing sense they became twin cities on Sunday as hope triumphed over probability.

Australia hadn't lost to the West Indies at home in 27 years. A 24-year-old, Joseph Shamar, playing only his second Test ran through them with seven wickets. Another 24-year-old, Tom Hartley, playing his first, claimed seven too and pushed India to only their fourth defeat at home in 11 years.

If that wasn't sufficient, in Melbourne a 22-year old fought from two sets down to claim the Australian Open, although Jannick Sinner's victory wasn't as surprising. Still, it made for an Underdog Day afternoon.

Sport thrives on surprises. The unexpected is the fan's best friend.

Vintage Windies

This was the West Indies of old, patently enjoying the game and communicating that enjoyment. T

here was Kevin Sinclair's cartwheel-somersault combo on taking a wicket – has anybody else done this ever? There was the fast bowling, the sharp catching, and in the end the race to become the first to jump on their hero who, after taking a yorker on his toe the previous day wasn't planning to take the field at all.

And there was the backstory - what is sport without its backstories? Shamar, the boy from the boondocks (Baracara, population 350, two days by boat from New Amsterdam) who began by felling and chopping logs and then moved to the city working as a labourer and security guard for 12 hours a day. He was part of a team that had played less than a third of the number of Tests Australia had. He takes a wicket – Steve Smith no less – with his first ball, and finishes as Player of the Series.

In another corner of the world, Hartley, son of a European 400m champion, whose first ball in Test cricket is hit for six is given up by all except his captain. Ben Stokes bowls him for 25 overs in the first innings (while he leaks 131 runs) as everybody wonders why.

Fear of failure

Bazball isn't just about striking regularly. It is equally about looking after your players. It is about playing unselfishly, as Ollie Pope did on 196 when the last man came in. No pottering around for four overs while he ran a single off the last ball to get to the landmark. He tries a reverse scoop at Jasprit Bumrah and is bowled. Bazball isn't about entertainment alone, it is about the power of pulling together. Bazball is, as Stokes keeps emphasising, eliminating the fear of failure.

It was evident in India's chase that fear of failure ruled. India's top order had thrown away their wickets in the first innings playing attacking shots. As a consequence, they became overcautious and selfconscious in the chase. The *espncricinfo* statistican Rajesh, in an excellent analysis has pointed out that Indians actually played fewer false strokes than England but the latter scored more off the deliveries they were in control of. Bazball is also about getting your sums right.

India didn't have a designated hitter who might have changed the game in three or four overs – presumably Axar Patel was promoted with that tactic in mind.

But he dissolved into the prevailing defensiveness. India were risk-averse, England risk-tolerant if not risk-welcoming.

If fortune favours the brave, it also tends to desert the timid, which is what India were.

Those who criticised England for choosing to train in Abu Dhabi when the wickets in India were expected to take spin missed the real reason: batters were practising one stroke – the sweep, both orthodox and the reverse. Pope batted in the first innings with all the confidence of a deer caught in the headlights. But after about 20 runs in the second he unfroze and let the training take over.

India lacked a batter who would go after the spinners. Someone like Rishabh Pant, a brilliant risk-calculator. Yashasvi Jaiswal didn't make allowance for the changing conditions and fast learning bowlers in the second innings.

He will learn, as will the Indian team. It didn't matter that India didn't win, we witnessed one of the great Tests.

This was an England victory inspired by their captain whose moves on the field were occasionally puzzling.

But sometimes tactics are not as important as kindness and self-belief as Stokes showed once again during his 14th win in 19 matches.

De Rossi's Roma beats Salernitana

The coach's stint at the club starts with two successive victories; he took over from manager Mourinho in the middle of January

EURO LEAGUES

Associated Press
ROME

Daniele De Rossi's dream start as the Roma boss continued when it earned a 2-1 win over Salernitana in Serie A on Monday.

His second win came thanks to second-half goals from Paulo Dybala and Lorenzo Pellegrini.

Grigoris Kastanos pulled one back with a header four minutes later.

Elegant: Dybala's penalty broke the deadlock. AP

The results:
Serie A: Salernitana 1 (Kastanos 70) lost to Roma 2 (Dybala 51-pen, Pellegrini 66).
LaLiga: Getafe 2 (Greenwood 21, Mayoral 36) bt Granada 0.

THE HINDU GROUP

ACES SPORTS QUIZ

1. In which international event of the year 2023 did the Indian Shooters bag 55 Medals including 21 Gold and 6 Paris 2024 quotas?
2. Ojas Pravin Deotale and Jyothi Surekha Vennam won gold in their respective categories in which sport at the 2023 Asian Games?
3. Who ended India's nearly four decade-long wait for a second medal in the men's singles badminton event at the Asian Games by winning the bronze in the 2023 Asian Games?

'SPORTSTAR ACES 2024 INDIA TRIUMPHS #SSaces2024

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Top 3 winners every day will win gift vouchers.

Answer to yesterday quiz:
1. AVINASH SABLE
2. SUPER HEAVY WEIGHT
3. SPEED SKATING

Nominations for the Moment of the Year

Sports Bureau

Indian sports had many moments to cherish in 2023. It is time to celebrate these landmark moments and achievements at the *Sportstar* ACES Awards.

Here are the nominees for the Moment of the Year award:

Virat Kohli moved clear of former teammate and India great Sachin Tendulkar with a record-breaking 50th ODI in the World Cup semifinal against New Zealand at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai, the home ground of Tendulkar. Kohli reached the landmark in trademark fashion, completing a brisk two despite battling cramps. Once the milestone was reached, Kohli leapt and then bowed down to Tendulkar, his childhood hero, and the maestro heartily applauded from the stands.

Indian men's football team captain, **Sunil Chhetri**, secured victory with a decisive goal during the Intercontinental Cup match against Vanuatu. To share the joyous news of impending parenthood, he celebrated in front of his wife, the ball tucked warmly within his jersey – a customary gesture in football worldwide to announce such delightful moments to the fans.

When Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem pulled out on the eve of the Asian Games javelin throw final due to injury, **Neeraj Chopra's** path to Asian Games gold seemed guaranteed. But when the controversy surrounding Neeraj's first throw overshadowed the competition, **Kishore Kumar Jena** stepped up by recording his personal best throw of 86.77 m, momentarily propelling himself to first place. Neeraj immediately embraced his countryman to celebrate his achievement. The Olympic champion eventually secured gold and Jena a well-deserved silver. "It was fun pushing each other," Neeraj said later. In that embrace, one saw a snapshot of Indian javelin's future.

Armless archer **Sheetal Devi** made headlines in October when she shot her way to three medals at the Asian Para Games. The 16-year-old, who hails from Kishtwar, Jammu and Kashmir, was born with phocomelia, a disorder causing underdeveloped limbs. Without arms, she learned to use a bow and arrow using her feet and started training full-time in archery only two years ago. Videos of her mounting the bow and using her right foot and mouth to steady the equipment before shooting perfect 10s went viral. From celebrities to the political brass, praise flooded in for the resilience and talent of the young girl, who eventually went on to finish the year as the No. 1 archer in open compound.

Jyothi Yarraji secured the silver in the women's 100m hurdles at the Hangzhou Asian Games amidst a backdrop of controversy and drama. Initially disqualified for a false start, she was allowed to take part pending a thorough post-race review. The official verdict came approximately half-an-hour after the conclusion of the race. The decision not only vindicated Jyothi, but also pushed her from third to second. It was her fourth fastest run of the year, and the eighth time she ran under 13s in 2023.

The voting lines for the 2024 awards close on Jan. 31.

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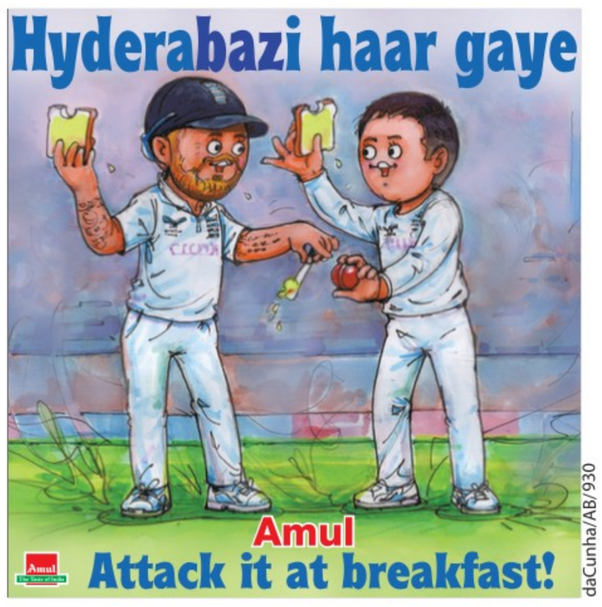

Akshdeep betters National record

Sports Bureau

Punjab's Akshdeep Singh broke his own year-old National record as he won the men's 20km title in race walking's Indian Open in Chandigarh on Tuesday.

Also bettering the national record was Uttarakhand's Suraj Panwar. Akshdeep finished in 1:19:38s to retain his title while Suraj clocked 1:19:44. Tamil Nadu's Servin (1:20:03) and Punjab's Arshpreet Singh (1:20:04) took the next two spots.

The top four finishers bettered the Paris Olympics qualification standard of 1:20:10s. Paramjeet Singh Bisht and Vikash Singh finished in the top 10 today. However, only three can go to Paris and the final team is expected to be decided in June. Punjab's Manju Rani won the women's 20km gold (1:33.00s) in the absence of National women's record-holder Priyanka Goswami who is now training in Australia. In the U-20 category, Uttarakhand's Himanshu Kumar won the 10km title while the junior women's winner Aarti of Haryana broke the national record on her way to gold.

Akshdeep broke his national record in the men's 20km walk.

The results: Men: 20km: 1. Akshdeep Singh (Pun) 1:19:38s National record, OR own 1:19.55s, 2023, 2. Suraj Panwar (Utk) 1:19:44.00, 3. Servin (Tamil Nadu) 1:20:03.00. **Women: 20km:** 1. Manju Rani (Pun) 1:33:00s, 2. Payal (Utk) 1:33:28, 3. Munita Prajapati (Utk) 1:34.14. **U-20: 10km: Boys:** 1. Himanshu Kumar (Utk) 41.11s, 2. Aditya Negi (Utk) 41.12s, 3. Roshan Kumar (Jkd) 41.28. **Girls: 10km:** 1. Aarti (Har) 47:03.00 National record, OR 49:01, Mansi Negi, 2021, 2. Vaishnavi Negi (Ukd) 49:31, 3. Chakpram Naocha (Man) 51:21.

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